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## Dear Dame Susan

I can confirm that as a result of the UK election being held on 12 December 2019, the plan to publish the 2020-21 Scottish Budget on that date can no longer proceed.

As a result, the Scottish Government is carefully considering its approach to the 2020-21 Scottish Budget.

I have written to the Chief Secretary to the Treasury to express my concern on the uncertainty of a date for the UK Government's 2020-21 Budget and the difficulty that this is causing Scotland.

In unforeseen circumstances such as these, I understand that the Protocol calls for discussions regarding a new date. I have asked my officials to keep in close touch with yours to that end. If it would be helpful to discuss anything further at this stage, please let me know.

**DEREK MACKAY** 

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