



T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Professor Graeme Roy
Scottish Fiscal Commission
Governor's House, Regent Road
Edinburgh
EH1 3DE

By email to Graeme.Roy@fiscalcommission.scot
& John.Ireland@fiscalcommission.scot

20 June 2024

Dear Professor Roy,

I previously notified the Commission that the publication of the MTFs, the draft Tax Strategy and the Infrastructure Investment Plan (IIP) pipeline refresh would be postponed following the resignation of Humza Yousaf MSP as First Minister and, again, following the announcement of the UK General Election. I am writing today to provide an update on the Scottish Government's plans for the publication.

Firstly, I would like to thank the Commission for your patience and continued engagement as I have considered options for the publication of Medium-Term Financial Strategy and related economic and fiscal forecasts.

I am writing to confirm that I will not be commissioning another set of forecasts prior to those for the Scottish Budget. The uncertainty of when a UK fiscal event will follow the general election would risk the medium-term projections becoming quickly out of date and would limit their usefulness. Additionally, significant time will have passed since the OBR's last forecast in March and estimates of the net tax and social security positions in a post-summer recess forecast could be misleading.

In the absence of forecasts, I intend to publish a fiscal update in September to set out the current fiscal context and the challenges ahead. I am currently considering the options for publishing information on the medium term fiscal outlook alongside the 2025-26 Scottish Budget. I welcome the consideration being given to what the Commission can publish prior to the Scottish Budget to help aid public and parliamentary scrutiny, and for your continued engagement with my officials as you do so.

SHONA ROBISON