

A solid orange right-angled triangle pointing downwards and to the right.

Claire Baker MSP
Convener
Economy and Fair Work Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

27 August 2024

Dear Convener,

Today the Scottish Fiscal Commission has published its biennial [Statement of Data Needs](#) published on the recommendation of your predecessor Committee in the last Parliament. It is designed to highlight improvements in data that would assist the Commission in preparing its forecasts and fiscal sustainability reports.

Most of the requests in our Statement of Data Needs relate to Scottish Government funding and spending information. We welcome that the Scottish Government publishes more detail than at the time of our last Statement of Data Needs in 2022. But we need more data, and in a more accessible format, to better scrutinise and analyse spending trends and in particular to assess the long-term fiscal implications of climate change. We also flag our concerns about some of the recent labour market data issues.

I am happy to discuss any aspect of our Statement and I am looking forward to giving evidence to the Committee on the Just Transition on 18 September.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Graeme Roy".

Professor Graeme Roy