

A solid orange triangle pointing downwards, located in the top left corner of the page.

Shona Robison
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government
Scottish Government

7 May 2025

Dear Ms Robison,

Thank you for your letter of 6 May about your proposal to postpone the publication of the Government's Medium Term Financial Strategy until the week commencing 23 June.

It is my intention that we publish our updated economic and fiscal forecasts, alongside commentary on the funding implications of these forecasts, on 29 May as originally planned.

In addition, to accompany the Scottish Government's MTFS, we would publish a follow-up report that provided further detail and commentary on the Government's funding position, and our formal assessment of the reasonableness of the Government's borrowing plans, post the UK Spending Review. This follow-up report would include a restatement of our forecasts from 29 May, thereby fulfilling our duty to publish forecasts to accompany the MTFS.

It is my view that publishing the core economic, tax and social security forecasts as planned on 29 May supports transparency and I see no reason for delay. All the necessary forecasting analysis, and engagement with the Government, has taken place. Publication at this time also fulfils our commitment to providing timely updates to the Committee on the outlook for Scotland's economy, tax and social security commitments. It also would enable members of the Commission to give evidence to the Finance and Public Administration Committee, as currently planned, on 10 June.

Finally, and to confirm that, we also intend to intention to publish a Fiscal Update in late August to assist the Committee's pre-Budget scrutiny.

I am copying this letter to the Convener of the Finance and Public Administration Committee.

Yours sincerely

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

Professor Graeme Roy, Chair