

David McGill
Clerk & Chief Executive
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh

EH99 1SP

11 March 2025

Dear David

Re: Supplementary Estimate 2022/23

Further to our letter of 11 September to Alison Johnstone MSP, I am now writing to confirm our request for a Supplementary Estimate for 2022/23. We are seeking an additional £223,000 from the Scottish Parliament for this year to meet two pressures. As both pressures arose from one-off factors, I am confident that neither is likely to reoccur in later years.

Firstly, pay awards for 2022 have been higher than expected when we submitted our original estimate. While this is affordable within our overall budget, we need to revise contributions from the devolved Parliaments to reflect the share of costs in line with the agreed funding formula. We have ensured that realistic pay assumptions are included within our Main Estimate for 2023/24, while remaining within our financial strategy of ensuring core costs will be no higher in real terms at the end of our corporate plan than they were at the beginning.

Secondly, we also need to correct the allocation of campaigns costs across the UK. More public awareness activity was required in this financial year for the elections May 2022 than we allowed for in the original estimate. As there are no major electoral events planned for 2023 we are confident that this will not affect the estimate for 2023/24. Nevertheless, we have put new financial planning arrangements in place to ensure allocations are more robust in future.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank you and the Parliament for its on-going support for the Commission's activities in Scotland.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shaun McNally', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Shaun McNally CBE

Chief Executive and Accounting Officer