

Parliamentary Business <MinisterforPB@gov.scot>; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport <MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot>; Kevin Pringle <Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Finance <CommunicationsDFMandFinance@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthAndSocialCare@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; John Nicholson <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>
Subject: For DFM clearance - media query - North Lanarkshire Council - The Times

Good afternoon DFM PO,

The Times has approached us on the news this morning that North Lanarkshire Council has decided to reverse its planned closure of sports and culture facilities in the area.

Comments below from Cllr Jim Logue – the journalist would like SG reaction.

SpAds, comms and policy suggest the following response based on lines cleared by DFM on Friday.

Please note, **the background on swimming pools** has been slightly tweaked to make it clear when the £6 million in consequential was allocated to the local government settlement.

SUGGESTED RESPONSE

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“It is for democratically-elected councils to make decisions on the priorities for their local areas and consider how facilities are used.

“While Scotland is facing the most challenging budget settlement since devolution due to ongoing UK Government austerity, this year North Lanarkshire Council will receive £779.7 million to fund local services – which equates to an extra £25.4 million on last year.

“Work is also ongoing with COSLA to establish a new fiscal framework for councils through the Verity House Agreement, a landmark agreement that is forging a stronger partnership between the Scottish Government and local councils through the spirit of collaboration and engagement.”

Background

This year the Scottish Government has funded a £13.5 billion local government settlement which provides a real-terms increase of £376 million for councils.

A commitment of £100 million in additional funding for local government was made at Stage 3 of the 2023-24 Budget Bill, to be funded in part by the £6 million in consequential for swimming pools.

After they were received from the UK Government the consequential were subsequently allocated for that use, as confirmed in the Autumn Budget Revision.

QUERY

The full statement from North Lanarkshire council leader Jim Logue, released by the Scottish Labour Party is as follows:

“We have taken the decision to protect these important community assets, despite a total lack of support from the Scottish Government to do so.

“The SNP has refused to offer a single penny more to support these facilities despite receiving £6 million to support swimming pools from the UK Government.

“North Lanarkshire Labour will protect these important facilities for the duration of this council term.

“However, our financial situation remains dire after more than a decade of cuts to our budget from the SNP in Holyrood, but Labour will always stand up for families here.

“It remains the case that North Lanarkshire Council will face difficult budget decisions as a result of failure of the SNP to properly resource local government.”

If I could get a right of reply on these comments as soon as possible that would be appreciated. The article will be going online first today.

Many thanks,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Media Manager | News: Deputy First Minister, Finance & Corporate

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

m: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**



From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, September 29, 2023 6:44 PM

To: Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning <MinisterLGEP@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; Minister for Parliamentary Business <MinisterforPB@gov.scot>; Minister for Community Wealth & Public Finance <MinisterCWPF@gov.scot>; Kevin Pringle <Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Finance <CommunicationsDFMandFinance@gov.scot>; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthAndSocialCare@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Line to clear - BBC - swimming pool funding/ringfencing

Many thanks [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information], issuing now.

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information] | Senior Media Manager

Communications: News (Net Zero and Rural Affairs)

Scottish Government, St Andrew's House

e: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot

m: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning

Sent: Friday, September 29, 2023 6:43 PM

To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning <MinisterLGEP@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; Minister for Parliamentary Business <MinisterforPB@gov.scot>; Minister for Community Wealth & Public Finance <MinisterCWPF@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton

<Jack.Middleton@gov.scot[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Finance <CommunicationsDFMandFinance@gov.scot>; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthAndSocialCare@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Line to clear - BBC - swimming pool funding/ringfencing

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Mr FitzPatrick is content.

Thanks

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Private Secretary to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance – Shona Robison MSP

The Scottish Government

St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

T: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information] | **M:** [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information] | **Email:** DFMCSF@gov.scot

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Sent: 29 September 2023 18:05

To: Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning

<MinisterLGEP@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>;

Minister for Parliamentary Business <MinisterforPB@gov.scot>; Minister for Community

Wealth & Public Finance <MinisterCWPF@gov.scot>; Kevin Pringle

<Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>;

Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; David Hutchison

<David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily

Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>;

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) -

personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal

information]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Finance

<CommunicationsDFMandFinance@gov.scot>; Communications NHS Recovery, Health

and Social Care <CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthAndSocialCare@gov.scot>;

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) -

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[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Line to clear - BBC - swimming pool funding/ringfencing

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information] PO

Further to the below, the reporter has come back to ask for more information.

They would like to know whether, given our lines as drafted before, they can assume that none of the £6m Barnett consequentials secured after England had funding to protect swimming facilities will be used in a similar manner in Scotland. They would also like to know whether that £6m fund has already been added to local authority budgets, or is it to be added in future, or is it already being spent elsewhere?

Now that Mr FitzPatrick's letter on this has issued, I'd suggest issuing the following point in red as an addition to our previous statement. This has been agreed with policy and SpAds – grateful if you could confirm whether Mr FitzPatrick is content.

Many thanks

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“We place great importance on swimming pools. They are crucial to wellbeing and helping our children and young people to be healthy and active. It is for democratically elected Councils to make decisions on the priorities in their local communities.

“The 2023-24 Local Government settlement of £13.5 billion provides a cash increase in day to day spending of over £793 million, a real terms increase of £376 million. As confirmed this week in the Autumn Budget Revision, all consequentials available from the UK Spring Budget have now been allocated, with the Local Government Settlement increasing by £264 million accordingly.

“Under the Verity House Agreement with COSLA the Scottish Government has committed to enable councils to deliver services at a local level unless agreed otherwise, with a presumption against ringfenced funding.”

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning

Sent: Friday, September 29, 2023 2:28 PM

To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning <MinisterLGEP@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; Minister for Parliamentary Business <MinisterforPB@gov.scot>; Minister for Community Wealth & Public Finance <MinisterCWPF@gov.scot>; Kevin Pringle <Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>;

Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; David Hutchison
<David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily
Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>;
[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) -
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<CommunicationsDFMandFinance@gov.scot>; Communications NHS Recovery, Health
and Social Care <CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthAndSocialCare@gov.scot>;
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[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) -
personal information]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Line to clear - BBC - swimming pool funding/ringfencing

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Mr FitzPatrick is content with the suggested response.

Thanks,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

**Private Secretary to the Minister for Community Wealth and Public Finance –
Tom Arthur MSP**

The Scottish Government

St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

**T: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information] | M: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) -
personal information] | Email: ministerCWPF@gov.scot**

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, September 29, 2023 1:51 PM

To: Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning
<MinisterLGEP@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>;
Minister for Parliamentary Business <MinisterforPB@gov.scot>; Minister for Community
Wealth & Public Finance <MinisterCWPF@gov.scot>; Kevin Pringle
<Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>;
Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; David Hutchison
<David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily
Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>;
[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) -
personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal
information]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Finance
<CommunicationsDFMandFinance@gov.scot>; Communications NHS Recovery, Health
and Social Care <CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthAndSocialCare@gov.scot>;
[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) -
personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal
information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>;
[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) -
personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal

information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>;
[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) -
personal information]@gov.scot>

Subject: Line to clear - BBC - swimming pool funding/ringfencing

Local Government Empowerment Minister PO

The BBC have approached us about £6m of Barnett consequentials for Scotland following the UK's £63m funding in March to help swimming pools in England with increased operating costs. This is in connection with the North Lanarkshire cuts story.

The Scottish conservatives say this funding has not yet reached Scottish leisure centres.

The reporter would like to know if this money is ringfenced for swimming pools. Has any of the money been given to swimming pool operators for the pools? If not, when can they expect to receive it? Has the money been spent elsewhere?

She has asked for a response by 3pm.

Given the advice now with Mr FitzPatrick around the public record, comms, policy and SpAds would recommend a top line response to this query, as below.

Grateful if you could confirm whether the Minister is content with this approach.

Many thanks

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“We place great importance on swimming pools. They are crucial to wellbeing and helping our children and young people to be healthy and active. It is for democratically elected Councils to make decisions on the priorities in their local communities.

“Under the Verity House Agreement with COSLA the Scottish Government has committed to enable councils to deliver services at a local level unless agreed otherwise, with a presumption against ringfenced funding.”

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Senior Media Manager | Deputy First Minister, Finance and Corporate
Scottish Government

3-W, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of**
Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning

Sent: 28 September 2023 20:53

personal information]@gov.scot>; Kevin Pringle <Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>;
Subject: FOR CLEARANCE - Express - swimming pool funding/FMQs point of order

Good evening Minister/PO

The Express have approached us for comment on the point of order from Douglas Lumsden at the end of FMQs today – I've included the transcript below.

Mr Lumsden has since put a statement to press saying: "Across Scotland, there are communities who have waited months for some good news about their shuttered swimming pools.

"They have been waiting for this money coming through - for pools like Bucksburn in my region which has already been stripped back to the walls by the SNP.

"The Scottish Conservatives have been forced to extract any information about where this £6m has gone. And time and time again, the public are getting fobbed off with secrecy and blatant misdirection."

The Express would like a response to these comments, and to know whether Mr FitzPatrick will be correcting the record.

I have liaised with Spads and policy officers and have agreed a holding line for tonight. Officials will be in touch in the morning to advise on how to take the matter forward.

Grateful for a view.

Kind regards

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]
Duty Comms

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

"We will consider the matter of the official record in due course

"We place great importance on swimming pools. They are crucial to wellbeing and helping our children and young people to be healthy and active.

"It is for democratically elected Councils to make decisions on the priorities in their local communities."

FMQs transcript

On a point of order, Presiding Officer. During a members' business debate on 31 May, John Swinney intervened to say that I was incorrect in stating that United

Kingdom swimming pool funding from the Treasury was in addition to the Scottish budget. Mr Swinney has now admitted to me that he was wrong, has apologised and has corrected the record, and I thank him for that.

On 29 June, I intervened on the Minister for Victims and Community Safety, Siobhian Brown—who is walking out of the chamber—to state the same basic fact. The minister responded that Barnett consequentialia had already been added to the local authority block. She then wrote to me to apologise and corrected the record, and I thank her for that.

Yesterday, I asked the Minister for Local Government Empowerment and Planning, Joe Fitzpatrick, about the same UK swimming pool fund. In his response, he stated:

“As I said, the money has been allocated. It was allocated to budgets as part of £100 million of additional funding that went to local government at stage 3 of the budget bill.”—[Official Report, 27 September; c 20.]

Stage 3 of the budget was in February and, as John Swinney admitted to me in his apology, the money was allocated by the UK Government much later. For the SNP to make that mistake once was unfortunate. To make that mistake twice looks like incompetence. To make that mistake three times looks deliberate.

Presiding Officer, can you let me know if Joe Fitzpatrick has made any attempt to correct the record? Further, given the torrent of corrections that are now being issued by Scottish ministers, is there any action that you can take when such an important issue that affects our communities across Scotland has been obscured to such an extent?

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information] Senior Media Manager -
Communications Health and Social Care
Scottish Government
Tel: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**
[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot

From: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of**
Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2023 6:20 PM
To: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**
@gov.scot>; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport
<MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot>
Cc: Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care
<CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthAndSocialCare@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; Communications DFM &
Finance<CommunicationsDFMandFinance@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**
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@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health & Women's Health <MinisterPHWH@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>;
Subject: RE: FOR CLEARANCE PLEASE - media query - Scottish Express-Budget/swimming pools

Hi [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Ms Todd is content.

Kind regards,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Private Secretary

Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport – Maree Todd MSP

Scottish Government, Room 1E.10 St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

E-mail: MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot

Mobile: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Sent: Monday, September 25, 2023 5:58 PM

To: Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport <MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot>

Cc: Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

<CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthAndSocialCare@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) -

personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) – personal

information]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM &

Finance<CommunicationsDFMandFinance@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal

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@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted -

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personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal

information]@gov.scot>; Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)

- personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal

information]@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

<CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health & Women's Health

<MinisterPHWH@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>;

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FOR CLEARANCE PLEASE - media query - Scottish Express-Budget/swimming pools

PO

Grateful if you can confirm Minister is content with North Lanarkshire info added to background.

Many thanks

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“We place great importance on swimming pools. They are crucial to wellbeing and helping our children and young people to be healthy and active.

“The Scottish Government allocated £100 million of additional funding to Local Government at Stage 3 of the Budget Bill, funded in part by the £6 million in consequentials for swimming pools. The 2023-24 Local Government settlement of £13.5 billion provides a cash increase in day to day spending of over £793 million, a real terms increase of £376 million.

“It is for democratically elected Councils to make decisions on the priorities in their local communities.”

BACKGROUND

In 2023-24, North Lanarkshire Council will receive £779.7 million to fund local services, which equates to an extra £25.4 million to support vital day to day services or an additional 3.4 per cent compared to 2022-23.

From: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 6:10 PM

To: Minister for Public Health & Women's Health <MinisterPHWH@gov.scot>

Cc: Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

<CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthAndSocialCare@gov.scot>; **[redacted -**

s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal**

information]@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**

@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; **[redacted**

- s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal**

information]@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal**

information]@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**

@gov.scot>; Kevin Pringle <Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot>; Jennie Gollan

<Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Ross

Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh

<Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Spads Admin <Spads_Admin@gov.scot>;

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Subject: FOR AWARENESS - - media query - swimming pool funding/Save our Pools - Bauer

PO/ Minister,

We've been asked about swimming pool funding again – ahead of debate tomorrow.

As our position is unchanged, we have reissued the below lines on spad clearance thanks.

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

LINE TO REISSUE

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“We place great importance on swimming pools. They are crucial to wellbeing and helping our children and young people to be healthy and active.

“The financial package announced by the UK Government to support swimming pools in England has resulted in consequentials being added to the overall Scottish block.

“While it is for local authorities to manage their own budgets and to allocate the total financial resources available to them, including on leisure facilities, we will consider what additional support can be provided to swimming pools and the wider sport and leisure sector in Scotland.”

MEDIA QUERY

We are previewing tomorrow’s Members Debate on the closure of swimming pools

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/S6M-10199>

We have spoken with Liz Smith about her debate and she’s calling on the Scottish Government to use Barnett consequentials to keep swimming pools open following £63m spend in this area by UK Govt.

Would there be a Scottish Government response available?

“The financial package announced by the UK Government to support swimming pools in England has resulted in consequentials being added to the overall Scottish block.

“While it is for local authorities to manage their own budgets and to allocate the total financial resources available to them, including on leisure facilities, we will consider what additional support can be provided to swimming pools and the wider sport and leisure sector in Scotland.”

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport

Sent: 10 July 2023 16:45

To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport <MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Jennie

Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; Kevin Pringle <Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Spads Admin <Spads_Admin@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthAndSocialCare@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; Chief Nursing Officer <CNO@gov.scot>; Deputy Chief Medical Officers <DCMO@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health <SBUHealth@gov.scot>; Communications Justice and Home Affairs <CommunicationsJusticeAndHomeAffairs@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: SPADS VIEWS PLEASE - media query - swimming pools funding - P&J

Hi [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Given Ms Todd is on leave, I think we can go with SpAd clearance on this.

Kind regards,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Private Secretary

Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport – Maree Todd MSP

Scottish Government, Room 1E.10 St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

E-mail: MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot

Mobile: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Sent: Monday, July 10, 2023 4:31 PM

To: Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport <MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; Kevin Pringle <Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Spads Admin <Spads_Admin@gov.scot>

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthAndSocialCare@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; Chief Nursing Officer <CNO@gov.scot>; Deputy Chief Medical Officers <DCMO@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health <SBUHealth@gov.scot>;

Keen to find out how much extra funding was provided and where exactly it is now. It was thought it would translate to £6m extra for Scotland but don't think that's ever been confirmed.

There had been hopes the cash could potentially help save Bucksburn pool in Aberdeen: <https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/news/aberdeen-aberdeenshire/5503582/bucksburn-pool-budget-day-pledge/>

I'd appreciate a response by 5pm, please.

Please see below additional comment from Douglas Lumsden, below.

"The SNP have had to correct the record and acknowledge this is new funding from the UK Treasury.

"And we know the money is now there to help councils like Aberdeen keep swimming pools open.

"However, the devil is in the detail as to where that cash is going.

"This weak response will just frustrate campaigners at Bucksburn who are looking to the Scottish Government for help to get the doors open again."

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 6:56 PM

To: Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport <MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot>

Cc: Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; Derek Watson <Derek.Watson@gov.scot>;

David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen

<Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack

Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal

information]@gov.scot>; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social

CareCommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthAndSocialCare@gov.scot>; [redacted -

s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal

information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted -

s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal

information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>;

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) -

personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal

information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Subject: FOR MINISTERIAL AWARENESS - media query - Scottish swimming petition - Bucksburn - P&J

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information], PO

We've been asked again about swimming pool funding off the back of a Conservative Nr/Petition (in full below)

NR says - The citizen participation and public petitions committee will convene at Holyrood today. (Wednesday) For the first time, it will consider a call to "recognise the value of swimming pools and provide financial relief to help keep pools open."

As our position is unchanged, we have reissued the lines below on SpAds clearance, sending to the Minister for her awareness.

LINES TO REISSUE

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“The Scottish Government places great importance on swimming pools. They are crucial to the wellbeing of all our country and most importantly, for our children and young people to be healthy and active.

“The Scottish Government has increased the resources available to local government in 2023-24 by more than £793 million, a real terms increase of £376 million or 3%, compared to the 2022-23 Budget figures.

“While it is for local authorities to manage their own budgets and to allocate the total financial resources available to them on the basis of local needs and priorities, we will consider what additional support can be provided to swimming pools and the wider sport and leisure sector in Scotland.”

MEDIA QUERY

I wanted to check if finance could respond to the call for funding for facilities such as Bucksburn Swimming Pool?

The embargo is midnight but I'd appreciate if I could have a response by 8pm at the latest, please, to help meet our own print deadlines.

NR

Subject: Bucksburn cash call made as committee set to hear Scottish swimming petition

Embargoed for Wednesday 00.01 14 June

An influential committee will consider the plight of Bucksburn Swimming Pool as part of a national petition.

The citizen participation and public petitions committee will convene at Holyrood today. (Wednesday)

For the first time, it will consider a call to “recognise the value of swimming pools and provide financial relief to help keep pools open.”

The petition, by Helen Plank on behalf of Scottish Swimming, calls on the Scottish Parliament “to urge the Scottish Government to help keep our swimming pools and leisure centres open by providing financial investment for pools.”

North East region MSP Tess White has formally submitted a letter to the committee, on behalf of parents and clubs who used the pool.

Pointing to extra funds sent to the Scottish Government following Chancellor Jeremy Hunt's £63m fund to protect swimming pools from rising costs, the Scottish Conservative shadow public health minister said Bucksburn's closure due to budget cuts did not consider “the negative impact the decision to close the pool would have on the mental and physical health of the adults and children who accessed the facility.”

She added:

“The reality is that there is money available to help keep Scotland's swimming pools open.

“The social, emotional, and health-related value of our swimming pools for local communities cannot be ignored, and I urge the Scottish Government to act to save facilities like Bucksburn swimming pool.”

Ends

Notes

Letter to committee enclosed

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/whats-on-and-watch-live/whats-on?dateFrom=6/14/2023#wm>

<https://petitions.parliament.scot/petitions/PE2018>

Office of Tess White MSP
M2.20
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP
Tess.White.MSP@parliament.scot
0131 348 6218

Jackson Carlaw MSP
Convener
Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee
The Scottish Parliament

BY EMAIL

7th June 2023

Dear Convener,

[PE2018: Recognise the value of swimming pools and provide financial relief to help keep pools open](#)

I am writing to the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee to express my support for PE2018 on recognising the value of swimming pools, and I commend Scottish Swimming as the petitioners for pursuing this issue.

In my region, Bucksburn swimming pool in Aberdeen closed at the end of April this year because of budget cuts to Sports Aberdeen by Aberdeen City Council.

The local community rallied together to try to save the pool, and the strength of feeling from residents demonstrated the tremendous value the facility has provided for Bucksburn and the surrounding area over many years. Thousands of people signed a petition to keep the pool open. I also met with the Save Bucksburn Swimming Pool campaign who fought passionately against the closure and were heartbroken to see the facility's doors close for the final time.

No thought was given to the negative impact the decision to close the pool would have on the mental and physical health of the adults and children who accessed the facility. It was the only swimming pool in the city with a shallow stair entry for people with disabilities, with the next closest swimming pool being two buses away. Bucksburn Amateur Swimming used the facility for more than 25 years, while the additional support needs department at Bucksburn Academy used it twice a week. Nine hundred children used the pool on a weekly basis.

I understand that the costs of keeping pools open are higher than they have been in the past. That is why the UK Government announced a £63m fund for struggling swimming pools in March 2023. The Scottish Government received Barnett Consequentials as a result of this announcement and advised that it is the responsibility of Scottish Ministers to decide how this money is spent.

However, there is still no clarity on the allocation of this funding, with the former Cabinet Secretary for Finance, John Swinney, incorrectly informing the Scottish Parliament on 31 May that he had distributed the money as part of the block grant in December 2022. He later issued an apology.

The reality is that there is money available to help keep Scotland's swimming pools open. The social, emotional, and health-related value of our swimming pools for local communities cannot be ignored, and I urge the Scottish Government to act to save facilities like Bucksburn swimming pool.

Yours sincerely,

Tess White MSP
MSP for North East Region

Best wishes

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

I am working from home – please contact me on **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information] | Senior Media Manager | Communications
NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care | Scottish Government
[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of**
Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport

Sent: Friday, May 19, 2023 5:06 PM

To: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport <MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot>

Cc: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>;

@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; Chief Nursing Officer <CNO@gov.scot>; Deputy Chief Medical Officers <DCMO@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health SBUHealth@gov.scot
Subject: FOR CLEARANCE: SWIMMING POOLS - Daily Mail

Good afternoon Minister/PO

The Daily Mail is asking about funding for swimming pools – particularly if we received Barnett consequentials as a results of a recent £63m UK announcement.

I have liaised with Spads and policy officials who have confirm we have received consequentials but they have been allocated into the wider budget. We have drawn up a response based on that information.

Would be grateful for your view

Kind regards

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“The Scottish Government places great importance on swimming pools. They are crucial to the wellbeing of all our country and most importantly, for our children and young people to be healthy and active.

“The financial package announced by the UK Government to support swimming pools in England has resulted in consequentials being added to the overall Scottish block.

“While it is for local authorities to manage their own budgets and to allocate the total financial resources available to them, including on leisure facilities, we will consider what additional support can be provided to swimming pools and the wider sport and leisure sector in Scotland.”

QUERY

The UK Government announced £63 million for swimming pools in England in March and this has triggered Barnett consequentials.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-15134>

Swimming Scotland has said today that SG needs to release these consequentials immediately to help keep open pools at threat of closure.

What is the value of these consequentials; what is the delay in distributing them; will SG commit to spending them on swimming pools, and, if so, when will it do so?

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]Senior Media Manager - Communications
Health and Social Care
Scottish Government
Tel: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**
[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot

From: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of**
Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 1:22 PM
To: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport
<MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot**[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>;
[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) -**
personal information]@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal**
information]@gov.scot>
Subject: Request for advice on support for swimming pools

Hi folks,

The Minister has noted the high levels of parliamentary questions and correspondence relating to support for swimming pools following the UK Government financial package to support pools in England.

The Minister has asked for some formal advice as soon as possible which considers use of the consequential that have arisen or what other support can be provided to the sport and leisure sector in Scotland in order for them to be viable in the short, medium and long term.

Kind regards,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]
Private Secretary
Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport – Maree Todd MSP
Scottish Government, Room 1E.10 St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
E-mail: MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot
Mobile: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**

From: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>
Sent: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 5:07 PM
To: SG Place Director Team - ELC <PlaceDirectorELC@gov.scot>
Cc: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) -**
personal information]@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal**
information]@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>;
[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) -**
personal information]@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal**
information]@gov.scot**[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>;
[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot**[redacted - s.38(1)(b) -**
personal information]@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal**

information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>;
Director for Local Government and Housing
<DirectorForLocalGovernmentandHousing@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: DUE WED 22 NOV: TRAVELLING CABINET HOT ISSUES BRIEFING
COMMISSION

Hi [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Please find a briefing contribution attached covering topic 2.

Thanks

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]Active Scotland

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 1:33 PM
To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) -
personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal
information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>;
[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) -
personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal
information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: DUE WED 22 NOV: TRAVELLING CABINET HOT ISSUES BRIEFING
COMMISSION

All –

For comment before we put up to [redacted – out of scope]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information] [redacted – out of scope], [redacted -
s.38(1)(b) - personal information] [redacted – out of scope] I've copied in [redacted -
s.38(1)(b) - personal information]for topic 2 (current PQ).

Thanks

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

18 Nov: Craig Hoy MSP writes in the East Lothian Courier that he is disappointed by the closure of the Loch Centre's swimming pool in Tranent.

10 Nov: East Lothian Courier reports on the impact on the Tranent Amateur Swimming Club as well as the wider community.

31 Oct: East Lothian Council meeting hears details of estimated additional capital expenditure of circa £4.5 million needed to address the Loch Centre's swimming pool due to defects in the Centre's roof, and the possibility it might be Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC).

16 Mar: Scottish Swimming and Scottish Curling write to the First Minister requesting urgent financial assistance.

15 Mar: UK Government budget announces a £63m fund to help public swimming pools in England stay operational in face of high energy bills and rising maintenance costs.

The Scottish Government places great importance on leisure facilities and believes everyone should have access to these services locally.

- The Scottish Government's policy towards local authorities' spending is to allow local authorities the financial freedom to operate independently. As such, the vast majority of funding is provided by means of a block grant.
- It is then the responsibility of individual local authorities to manage their own budgets and to allocate the total financial resources available to them, on the basis of local needs and priorities, having first fulfilled their statutory obligations and the jointly agreed set of national and local priorities.
- The Scottish Government will continue to work in partnership with local government to ensure that the people of Scotland continue to receive the high quality public services that they expect and deserve.

Local sport and leisure facilities, including swimming pools, are vital in supporting the physical and mental health of the nation.

- We have repeatedly called on the UK Government to use all the powers at its disposal to tackle this cost of living crisis and to provide appropriate energy bill relief to leisure facilities.

We need a sustainable estate. One that is focussed on the needs of people, that is energy efficient and that is accessible

- We are fully aware that energy costs are a significant issue facing many sports facilities, particularly swimming pools and ice rinks.
- sportscotland is supporting Scottish Swimming to undertake the Scottish Swimming Facilities Project.
- This is a detailed piece of work to accurately understand the current pool provision and life cycle, and to predict the landscape in the short, medium, and long term.
- We need to ensure that any investment, particularly at a time when public finances are under so much pressure, ensures sustainable facilities, in the right places, to serve their local communities' needs.

In the most challenging budget settlement since devolution, we are providing nearly £13.5bn in the Local Government Settlement 2023-24.

- We are increasing the resources available to Local Government by over £793m, which represents a real terms increase of £376m or 3%.
- In 2023-24, East Lothian Council will receive £221.5 million to fund local services, which equates to an extra £8.1 million to support vital day to day services or an addition 3.8 per cent compared to 2022-23.
- That is an increase beyond the flat-cash position set out in the 2022 Resource Spending Review.
- The Scottish Government will continue to press the UK Government for urgent additional funding for our joint priorities and would welcome support from across the Parliament, COSLA and individual local authorities in this respect.
- Compared to the less than £6m of consequentials the Scottish Government received for swimming pools following the UK Budget, Scottish Government allocated £100 million of additional funding to Local Government at Stage 3 of the Budget Bill and confirmed a further £55m ahead of the summer.

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of**
Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning

Sent: Friday, September 29, 2023 3:08 PM

To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

@gov.scot>; Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning
<MinisterLGEP@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Kevin Pringle <Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Director for Local Government and Housing <DirectorForLocalGovernmentandHousing@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Finance <CommunicationsDFMandFinance@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Oral PQ - S6O-02565 - Minister feedback

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Please see the attached issued letter.

Mr FitzPatrick has also passed on his thanks to everyone for helping get this sorted so quickly.

Hope you all have a good weekend when it comes.

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Private Secretary to the Minister for Community Wealth and Public Finance – Tom Arthur MSP

The Scottish Government

St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

T: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information] | **M:** [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information] | **Email:** ministerCWPF@gov.scot

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, September 29, 2023 2:45 PM

To: Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning <MinisterLGEP@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Andrew Sinclair <[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Kevin Pringle <Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Director for Local Government and Housing <DirectorForLocalGovernmentandHousing@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Finance

<CommunicationsDFMandFinance@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Oral PQ - S6O-02565 - Minister feedback

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

I've updated the document as requested and re-attached. Please let me know if you need anything further.

Thanks

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Head of Delivery | Active Scotland

📧 [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information] | 📧 [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot

To find out more about Active Scotland, please visit us on [Twitter](#) or on our [Actify hub](#).

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, September 29, 2023 11:32 AM

To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning [MinisterLGEP@gov.scot](#)

Cc: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <[DFMCSF@gov.scot](#)>; Callum McCaig <[Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot](#)>; David Hutchison <[David.Hutchison@gov.scot](#)>; Kevin Pringle <[Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot](#)>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Director for Local Government and Housing <[DirectorForLocalGovernmentandHousing@gov.scot](#)>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Finance <[CommunicationsDFMandFinance@gov.scot](#)>

Subject: RE: Oral PQ - S6O-02565 - Minister feedback

Importance: High

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

With thanks to colleagues in Finance and Sport, we have looked into the situation and whilst there is a confusing sequencing issue here, we do not consider the answer to be inaccurate and it simply reflects the complexities of the budget process and the misalignment between Scottish and UK fiscal events.

[redacted – free and frank]

In summary, we would recommend that Mr FitzPatrick does not need to correct the official record and would offer the attached response to Mr Lumsden and/or Presiding Officer. The letter has been drafted to Ms Lumsden but can be re-directed or copied to the Presiding Officer if that would be more suitable.

This response has been agreed with Finance colleagues and Sports colleagues. I have not had advice from SPADs but I have copied them in here.

This issue has attracted a number of media inquiries last night and today so early communication of Mr FitzPatrick's position could be helpful to inform those response.

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Head of Local Government Finance
Local Government & Analytical Services Division
3-G (N)
Victoria Quay
Leith
EH6 6QQ

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Blackberry **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**

From: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>

Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2023 1:21 PM

To: Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning <MinisterLGEP@gov.scot>

Cc: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Oral PQ - S6O-02565 - Minister feedback

Hi **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**

Just to let you know this has been picked up and we'll get back to you shortly (also copying others with an interest).

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Head of Delivery | Active Scotland

📧 **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]** | 📧 **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot

From: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot> On Behalf Of Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning

Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2023 1:13 PM

To: **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>; **[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]**@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning <MinisterLGEP@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Oral PQ - S6O-02565 - Minister feedback

Importance: High

Hi [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

In relation to Oral PQ (S6O-02565), there has been a point of order raised in Parliament over concerns that the information was inaccurate. This can be viewed on [Parliament TV](#), if you rewind back to 12:47:35.

[redacted – out of scope]

I would be grateful if you could confirm that this has been picked up.

Many thanks

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Deputy Private Secretary to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance – Shona Robison MSP

The Scottish Government

St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

Email: DFMCSF@gov.scot / M: [redacted - s.38(1)(b) - personal information]

Joe FitzPatrick MSP

T: 0300 244 4000

E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Douglas Lumsden MSP

By email

29 September 2023

Mr Lumsden

With reference to your Point of Order in the Chamber on 28 September 2023 and to further clarify my response to your parliamentary question, I can reaffirm that the £6m of consequential funding received for swimming pools in England does form part of the package that has supported the additional funding committed to Local Government at Stage 3 of the 2023/24 Budget Bill and in subsequent commitments confirmed to Parliament in S6W-19385.

The Scottish Government funding position is fluid and changes throughout the year and assessment of the position throughout the Budget Bill process requires consideration of a range of factors, including;

- The impact of changes to the current year financial position - which will in turn affect future years through carry forward of resources in the Reserve; and
- The likelihood of further consequential funding at subsequent UK fiscal events.

During the passage of the Budget Bill the then Deputy First Minister received updated information which suggested that sufficient certainty over additional funding becoming available across a range of sources ahead of 2023-24 would allow that extra funding to be committed at Stage 3 of the Budget Bill.

It is important to note that absolute figures for individual elements of the additional funding were unknown at the point of the Stage 3 announcement but the commitment to an extra £100 million to Local Government, (which was subsequently increased to £155 million), was deemed affordable in aggregate following careful judgement of the likely outcomes across the range of factors, as is the case at every fiscal event.

As we have moved forward into 2023-24 sufficient funding has become available from a combination of the provisional underspend for 2022-23 and the UK Spring Statement consequentials (which includes the funding for swimming pools) to support the additional commitments made at the time of the budget.

Consequentials from UK fiscal events accrue to the Scottish Block Grant as a whole and it is for Ministers to allocate as they see fit with no requirement that the funding be used for the same purpose. The £6 million of swimming pool consequentials subsequently accrued at the UK Spring Budget form part of the overall funding position that has allowed the allocation of £155 million to Local Government given effect as part of the Autumn Budget Revision. Whilst the funding is fully allocated this is on a non-specific basis.

With regards to the correction to the official record on 29 June 2023 by The Minister for Victims and Community Safety, it was correct at that time that the consequentials had been committed to Local Government but as acknowledged in the correction, they had not yet been added to General Revenue Grant. The commitments to Local Government made in the Budget, and subsequently, were then given effect at the Autumn Budget Revision (ABR) yesterday. The impact of those changes is clearly and transparently set out in Table 1.2 of ABR and, as confirmed in Table 1.7c, all but £0.7 million of funding confirmed to be available to Scottish Government has been committed as part of the ABR process.

I hope you find this clarification helpful.

JOE FITZPATRICK

From: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot

Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2023 2:42 PM

To: MinisterVCS@gov.scot

Cc: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Maureen.Rooney@gov.scot; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>

Subject: FOR REVIEW - Draft letter from Ms Brown to Mr Lumsden - re swimming pool funding & correction to the official record of the debate

Hello [redacted – personal information]

Apologies we haven't even had a chance to say hello yet. I've just landed in BSC this week as the new team leader.

Please now find attached the draft letter text for responding to Mr Lumsden. This has been cleared by Mo Rooney. At the bottom of this email, you will also find some suggested text for an email to correct the official record of the debate.

Mo asked if we could give further clarification on the future funding position for pools. Our colleagues in sport are currently fielding a number of enquires on pools and ice rink funding. We been advised to give brief lines on funding for the moment till they reflect on their position. If you are pressed further by Mr Lumsden on this issue will can ask for an updated position on funding and support.

Suggested text for PO to use to correct the official record.

To: official.report@parliament.scot

From: Minister for Victims and Community Safety

During the Drowning Prevention Week 2023 debate on 29th of June 2023, I responded to an intervention by Douglas Lumsden MSP on the use of Barnett Consequentials to support funding for swimming pools. In response, I stated that funding from the Barnett Consequentials had been added to the "local authority block". This was in fact incorrect. I had intended to say that it had been added to the *Scottish Government block*. I have noted the error with Mr Lumsden and expressed my apology. I would be grateful if you could now record the correction at the appropriate section on the Official Report.

Link to the debate - Meeting of the Parliament: 29/06/2023 | Scottish Parliament Website

Please get in touch if you have any comments or questions.

Regards

[redacted – personal information]

From: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2023 5:47 PM
To: Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Maureen.Rooney@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>
Subject: FOR REVIEW - Letter to Presiding Officer and Correction to the Official Record - re swimming pool funding & Drowning Prevention debate

Hello [redacted – personal information]

Thanks for your guidance this afternoon.

Please now find attached cleared text for

- 1) Letter to Presiding Officer – noting the error and the action we have taken.
- 2) Draft text to Correct the Official Record – recipient email address - official.report@scottish.parliament.uk

These documents sit along side the earlier letter responding to Mr Lumsden's request for a correction.

Regards
[redacted – personal information]

From: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Victims & Community Safety
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2023 3:20 PM
To: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Maureen.Rooney@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Gollan J (Jennie) <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW - Draft letter from Ms Brown to Mr Lumsden - re swimming pool funding & correction to the official record of the debate

Hi [redacted – personal information]

Thanks for your email and welcome to the portfolio!

I've just spoken to [redacted – personal information] about this and said I would share the guidance regarding correcting the official report and steps that need to be taken. Please see link: [Official Report: Guidance on the correction of inaccuracies \(parliament.scot\)](https://www.parliament.scot)

I'm also copying in Jennie who is covering for spAds interests this week and attaching the original emails on this.

Please note Ms Brown is on leave after tomorrow for a week.

Many thanks,

[redacted – personal information] Private Secretary to Minister for Victims and Community Safety, Siobhian Brown
The Scottish Government | 1W.11, St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
T: +44(0)131 244 [redacted – personal information] | Ext: [redacted – personal information] | M: [redacted – personal information] | E: ministerVCS@gov.scot

From: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Victims & Community Safety

Sent: Monday, July 10, 2023 4:10 PM

To: MinisterVCS@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Maureen.Rooney@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>;

DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW - Letter to Presiding Officer and Correction to the Official Record - re swimming pool funding & Drowning Prevention debate

Hi All

Please see attached a response from the official report team.

Assume the answer is yes but just wanted to double check that is correct before I respond.

Grateful if someone can advise.

Many thanks,

[redacted – personal information]
Private Secretary to Minister for Victims and Community Safety, Siobhian Brown
The Scottish Government | 1W.11, St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
T: +44(0)131 244 [redacted – personal information] | Ext: [redacted – personal information] | M: [redacted – personal information] | E: ministerVCS@gov.scot

From: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Victims & Community Safety

Sent: 07 July 2023 16:10

To: MinisterVCS@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Maureen.Rooney@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW - Letter to Presiding Officer and Correction to the Official Record - re swimming pool funding & Drowning Prevention debate

All

To confirm the letters have now issued.

Please see attached copies for your record.

Thanks,

[redacted – personal information] Private Secretary to Minister for Victims and Community Safety, Siobhian Brown
The Scottish Government | 1W.11, St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
T: +44(0)131 244 [redacted – personal information] | Ext: [redacted – personal information] | M: [redacted – personal information] | E: ministerVCS@gov.scot

From: [redacted – personal information][@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Victims & Community Safety

Sent: 07 July 2023 14:07

To: [redacted – personal information][@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted – personal information][@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; Maureen.Rooney@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information][@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW - Letter to Presiding Officer and Correction to the Official Record - re swimming pool funding & Drowning Prevention debate

Hi All

Thank you for providing this advice and draft letters. The Minister has seen and commented that it isn't ideal being given the wrong information during a debate and she is then having to apologise. She is content to issue the letters provided, however has asked for clarification regarding Mr Lumsden specifically saying the UK Government has given the SG £63m for swimming pools and the SG have not passed it onto local authorities – the Minister has asked if this is factually correct?

We will get the letters ready for issuing today and grateful if you can advise on the Ministers ask when you are able.

Many thanks,

[redacted – personal information]
Private Secretary to Minister for Victims and Community Safety, Siobhian Brown
The Scottish Government | 1W.11, St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
T: +44(0)131 244 [redacted – personal information] | Ext: [redacted – personal information] | M: [redacted – personal information] | E: ministerVCS@gov.scot

From: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>

Sent: 06 July 2023 17:47

To: Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; <Maureen.Rooney@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; Lesleyann Russell <Lesleyann.Russell@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>

Subject: FOR REVIEW - Letter to Presiding Officer and Correction to the Official Record - re swimming pool funding & Drowning Prevention debate

Hello [redacted – personal information]

Thanks for your guidance this afternoon.

Please now find attached cleared text for

- 1) Letter to Presiding Officer – noting the error and the action we have taken.
- 2) Draft text to Correct the Official Record – recipient email address - official.report@scottish.parliament.uk

These documents sit along side the earlier letter responding to Mr Lumsden's request for a correction.

Regards

[redacted – personal information]

From: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Victims & Community Safety

Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 2:19 PM

To: Maureen.Rooney@gov.scot>; Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW - Letter to Presiding Officer and Correction to the Official Record - re swimming pool funding & Drowning Prevention debate

Hi Mo,

Ms Brown has noted.

Thanks,

[redacted – personal information]

[redacted – personal information] - Deputy Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for

Justice and Home Affairs – Angela Constance MSP
Scottish Government | 1W.11, St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG |
Tel: 0131 244 [redacted – personal information] | Mob: [redacted – personal information] | Email: CabSecJHA@gov.scot

From: Maureen.Rooney@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2023 5:49 PM

To: Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW - Letter to Presiding Officer and Correction to the Official Record - re swimming pool funding & Drowning Prevention debate

[redacted – personal information]

You and I have spoken. We recognise that the Minister certainly should not have been given inaccurate information on this point. At this stage, we can only apologise, but will do what we can to make sure this doesn't happen again.

To fully address the Minister's query in yellow below, Active Scotland colleagues have provided the following note which could helpfully be shared with the Minister in its entirety for completeness. The key point, highlighted in green, is that the Barnett consequential received to SG were £5.816m; the £63m figure relates to funding for public swimming pools in England.

11. In the Spring Budget Statement, the UKG announced £63 million of new funding to support public swimming pools in England, to help with immediate pressures and invest in energy efficiency measures. This funding announcement follows a campaign by Community Leisure UK (CLUK), UKActive and others for financial support, given the impact of spiralling energy costs, and the importance of swimming pools in teaching children to swim, as well as providing opportunities for people to stay active and safe in and around water.
12. The UK fund is comprised of £23 million available in revenue grants to support facilities with swimming pools with increased cost pressures leaving them most vulnerable to closure or service reduction, as well as £40 million available for capital investment to improve the energy efficiency of these public facilities in the medium to long term.
13. The scheme in England will be administered by Sport England who will operate an application-based approach, while recognising the immediate need for many facilities to secure funding to stay open. [Swimming Pool Support Fund | Sport England](#) Considerations will include areas of deprivation, rurality and where the closure of a pool would result in no other sports facility provision in a community. DCMS

<Jeanette.Campbell@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Ministerial briefing pack and a 6 minute closing speech - S6M-08901: Clare Adamson: Drowning Prevention Week 2023 210623

Hi [redacted – personal information]

Please see attached a letter from Douglas Lumsden MSP to the Minister regarding this members business and seeking clarity regarding Barnett Consequentials.

I would be grateful for advice and a draft response for the Ministers consideration as soon as you are able.

Many thanks,

[redacted – personal information]

Private Secretary to Minister for Victims and Community Safety, Siobhian Brown
The Scottish Government | 1W.11, St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
T: +44(0)131 244 [redacted – personal information] | Ext: [redacted – personal information] | M: [redacted – personal information] | E: ministerVCS@gov.scot

From: [redacted – personal information]

Sent: Monday, June 26, 2023 1:55 PM

From: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Victims & Community Safety

Sent: 03 July 2023 14:25

To: [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs <CabSecJHA@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>; Rooney M (Maureen) <Maureen.Rooney@gov.scot>; Communications Justice and Home Affairs <CommunicationsJusticeAndHomeAffairs@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; Campbell J (Jeanette) (Special Adviser) <Jeanette.Campbell@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>; [redacted – personal information]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Ministerial briefing pack and a 6 minute closing speech - S6M-08901: Clare Adamson: Drowning Prevention Week 2023 210623

Hi [redacted – personal information]

Please see attached a letter from Douglas Lumsden MSP to the Minister regarding this members business and seeking clarity regarding Barnett Consequentials.

I would be grateful for advice and a draft response for the Ministers consideration as soon as you are able.

Many thanks,

[redacted – personal information]

Private Secretary to Minister for Victims and Community Safety, Siobhian Brown
The Scottish Government | 1W.11, St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
T: +44(0)131 244 [redacted – personal information] | Ext: [redacted – personal information] | M: [redacted – personal information] | E: ministerVCS@gov.scot