

202500458992 - CSFLG correspondence

Email 1 – Comms clearance of lines re Barnett formular and FFA

[out of scope]

From: [Redact: S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 25 March 2025 16:56

To: Cabinet Secretary for Finance & Local Government <CabSecFLG@gov.scot>

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Subject: Line to clear - Global - Barnett Formula

Finance Secretary PO

[Redact: S38(1)(b)] at Global has put in a late query on the Barnett Formula.

Ian Murray's been answering questions at the Scottish Affairs Committee and has said he supports its continuation as:

1. It equates to £120 spent per person on public services in Scotland compared to £100 elsewhere in the UK
2. Full fiscal autonomy would equate to between £4bn and £8bn less being allocated to Scotland each year.

[Redact: S38(1)(b)] would like a response to these comments, for a story that will be running imminently on Global's hourly bulletins.

The following has been agreed with policy officials and SpAds. Grateful if you could confirm whether Ms Robison is content.

Many thanks

[Redact: S38(1)(b)]

Finance Secretary Shona Robison said:

"Scotland's finances remain largely dictated by the spending decisions of the UK Government, leaving us working to address the lingering effects of the austerity from previous UK Governments.

"The danger for Scotland's economy is the UK Government returning to the failed approach of austerity. It is vital that the Chancellor does not repeat the mistakes of the past and does not commit to further damaging cuts in the Spring Statement tomorrow."

[Redact: S38(1)(b)]