

Kenneth Gibson MSP
Convenor
Finance Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

4 March 2014

I Kenneth,

Thank you for your letter of 20 February regarding the timetable for publishing the Draft Budget 2015-16.

I recognise the Committee's desire to see the Draft Budget published as early as possible so that subject committees have the maximum amount of time for scrutiny. As you know, this is an objective that I support strongly.

Having considered the matter further, I am content to agree to the Committee's proposal that the Draft Budget will be published before this year's October recess.

I hope this assists the Committee in scheduling its forward work programme.

Yours,
JS

JOHN SWINNEY