

Shona Robison MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

29 November 2024

Dear Cabinet Secretary

At the Joint Consultative Committee (JCG) of the City of Edinburgh Council held on 12 November 2024 three agenda items relating to the Council's finances were considered: the 2024/25 In-year Budget Pressures, an Update following the UK Budget, and Scottish Government Funding. The JCG has representation from cross party elected members and the recognised trade unions covering all employee groups within the Council. The JCG provides a means of regular consultation between the Council and its employees.

Prior to the meeting the Accounts Commission Briefing for Local Government Budgets, 2024/25 and a briefing regarding the impact of the Autumn UK Budget on the Council were shared. It was noted at the meeting that current in-year budget pressure and future year projections could present an unsustainable financial situation for the council, with severe consequences for citizens, staff and public services. Those present agreed the Convener and Vice-Convener write to the UK and Scottish Governments, on behalf of the JCG, to share these concerns regarding the funding settlement for the Council. All members of the JCG were united in their view that, without a significant enhancement to the current and upcoming financial settlement, there would be dire impacts on the services provided or funded by the Council for the benefit of the people of Edinburgh.

We would be grateful if you could consider the views of the JCG in relation to the funding settlement to the Council and look forward to your response as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Val Walker
Joint Consultative Group Convener



Alison Murphy
Joint Consultative Group Vice- Convener