

Gordon Lindhurst MSP
Convener
Economy, Energy and Fair Work Committee
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

6 February 2019

Dear Convener,

Following the Budget Scrutiny session at the meeting of the Economy, Energy and Fair Work Committee on Tuesday, 8 January and I am pleased to provide further information on Scottish Enterprise's planned efficiency savings. The efficiencies described fall into four main categories, as detailed below:

Staff Costs

We will continue to manage the number of staff and skillsets appropriately and can confirm that the pay award for 2019/20 will be absorbed within the current resource DEL budget.

Domestic Premises

We will continue with the current programme to secure efficiencies in terms of the floorspace occupied within Scottish offices through the adoption of more flexible working practices (e.g. universal hot-desking).

Overseas Premises

We are currently conducting a strategic review of overseas office operations. This will build on the existing programme of co-location with other Government Departments in many territories which have secured cost efficiencies.

Information and Communication Technologies

We are investing in digital technologies that will expand our reach across the Scottish Business base, support flexible working practices and allow less effective legacy systems to be fully retired with the aim of securing potential cost savings.

The need to deliver efficiency savings against our running costs is at the forefront of our discussions as we carry out a thorough appraisal of our draft budget for 2019/20. Scottish Enterprise's Board will meet again on 22 February to consider our recommendations for the operating plan budget for the coming year.

I trust that this information is helpful to the Committee. Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to assist.

Yours sincerely,



IAIN SCOTT
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, SCOTTISH ENTERPRISE