



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Finance and Public Administration Committee

Patricia Ferguson MP
Chair, Scottish Affairs Committee
House of Commons

7 September 2026

Dear Patricia

Thank you for your letter of 1 July 2026 in which you seek opportunities for interparliamentary engagement and close working between our respective Committees on matters of shared interest. I also appreciate your kind words on my recent election as Convener of the Finance and Public Administration Committee.

The Committee considered your letter at our first meeting after recess, on 2 September 2026, including the suggestion that we explore opportunities to undertake joint scrutiny of matters arising from the embezzlement of funds from the Scottish National Party. I note that you have written on similar terms to other Scottish Parliamentary committees.

The specific matter you raise does not sit within the Committee's remit, which is to hold the Scottish Government to account for how it raises, allocates and spends public money. As the governing party in Scotland since 2007, the Scottish National Party has not received any public funds such as 'short money' provided to opposition parties, although we note this position differs to that in the UK Parliament where the party sits in opposition. This Committee is therefore unable to work jointly with you on this issue.

The Committee would however be very happy to engage with the Scottish Affairs Committee on matters of common interest in future as they arise.

Yours sincerely

Clare Haughey MSP
Convener

Contact: Finance and Public Administration Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP.

Email FPA.committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.