

Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Constitution
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Edward Mountain MSP
Convener
Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee
Room T3.40
The Scottish Parliament
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Dear Edward,

Thank you for your letter of 13 October regarding the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee's planned scrutiny of the digital budget within the forthcoming draft 2017/18 Budget and request for the inclusion of level 4 figures for digital infrastructure. We welcome the Committee's scrutiny of this area which is one of the Government's key priorities.

I would like to reassure you that the draft budget will contain more detail on digital connectivity spend more generally, and this will be supported by appropriate level 4 figures, which will follow the draft budget, broken down to the Resource and Capital elements. Furthermore, I know that Mr Ewing will be happy to provide an update to the Committee on how this funding will be spent when he attends the budget scrutiny session.

Yours

DEREK MACKAY