

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance

Leas Phrìomh Mhinistear agus Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Ionmhas

Shona Robison MSP/BPA



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Rosa Balliro

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Our Reference: 202300361834

Your Reference: Enquiry about National Infrastructure Company

3 July 2023

Dear Rosa Balliro,

Thank you for your letter addressed to the minister for Public Finance, Planning and Community Wealth, Tom Arthur MSP about the proposed Scottish National Infrastructure Company, and your continued interest in this matter. As Infrastructure comes under my portfolio, I will respond to your enquiry.

The Scottish Government continues to work to improve the way infrastructure decisions are made, and to harness and best deploy existing public sector expertise in infrastructure delivery.

I will continue to explore options, including the creation of a national infrastructure company to enhance how our existing resources and agencies contribute towards these ends. I believe that a number of ongoing pieces of improvement work are already making significant improvements to the infrastructure delivery landscape.

To support delivery of improved infrastructure we established the Infrastructure Commission for Scotland (ICfS) to provide long term strategic advice on national infrastructure priorities. Our infrastructure plans build on these recommendations and work is ongoing to develop our infrastructure improvement programme, through enhancing our approach to prioritising spending decisions to ensure our infrastructure commitments match long-term goals and in preparing a cross-sector infrastructure needs assessment. This will ensure we are making the best capital investment decisions possible across the public sector to deliver on our ambitious programme for Scotland.

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Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot

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The Scottish Government is also continuing to invest in the capability of leaders and project delivery professionals across the Scottish Government, enabling Civil Servants to make more effective decisions on our major programmes and projects. It has recently established a Projects Council under the leadership of the Head of the Project Delivery Profession. This brings together representatives from all Director General areas and relevant stakeholder teams. The council's role includes improving visibility, transparency and capability of our major projects and the Scottish Government's project delivery profession.

One of the ICfS recommendations was for the Scottish Government and Construction Scotland Leadership Group to jointly lead, develop, resource and implement a "Construction Accord" between all Scottish public bodies and the whole of the construction sector. Its purpose is to set out an inclusive, shared vision for, and commitment to create, the market interface conditions to support a high performing construction sector for the benefit of all Scotland, that contributes to the achievement of an inclusive net-zero carbon economy and underpins the delivery of our wider infrastructure objectives. The Construction Accord was launched in October 2022, it encompasses commitments to all the measures in the recommendation. More information can be found on the Construction Leadership Forum website. Work is now underway to co design a Transformation Plan with the sector to deliver on those commitments.

I hope this response fully answers your query. If you have any further questions, then please contact my officials at infrastructureinvestmentstrategy@gov.scot

Yours sincerely,



SHONA ROBISON

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