The Committee will meet at 9.30 am in Committee Room 4.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether item 3 at this meeting, its consideration of a work programme paper at its next meeting and its consideration of a draft report on the Scottish Government's Draft Budget 2010-11 at future meetings should be taken in private.

2. **Draft Budget Scrutiny 2010-11:** The Committee will take evidence on the Scottish Government's Draft Budget 2010-11 from—

   Michael Russell MSP, Minister for Culture, External Affairs and the Constitution, Nikki Brown, Deputy Director, Creative Scotland, David Seers, Team Leader, Cultural Excellence Branch, and Douglas Ansdell, Head, Gaelic Unit, Scottish Government;  

   Laura Petrie, Director of Finance, Historic Scotland;  

   and then from—

   Fiona Hyslop MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, Colin MacLean, Director of Schools, Andrew Scott, Director of Lifelong Learning, Sarah Smith, Director for Children, Young People and Social Care, and Chris McCrone, Head, Education and Lifelong Learning Finance Branch, Scottish Government.

3. **Draft Budget Scrutiny 2010-11:** The Committee will consider issues arising from its scrutiny of the Scottish Government’s Draft Budget 2010-11.
The papers for this meeting are as follows—

**Agenda item 2**

Paper by the Clerk
Introduction

1. This paper introduces the Committee’s evidence session with Scottish Ministers on those aspects of the Scottish Government’s budget that fall within the Committee’s remit.

Draft budget 2010-11

2. The Scottish Government published its draft budget 2010-11 on 17 September 2009\(^1\). The document sets out the spending proposals for the next financial year.

3. Under the agreed budget process\(^2\), subject committees scrutinise those chapters of the draft budget which fall within their remit and report their findings to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee reports to the Parliament, commenting on all the chapters in the draft budget. The Finance Committee’s report is then debated in plenary session.

Evidence

4. The Committee will take evidence on the budget proposals relating to arts and culture from Michael Russell, Minister for Culture, External Affairs and the Constitution. The Minister will be accompanied by Nikki Brown, Deputy Director, Creative Scotland, David Seers, Team Leader, Cultural Excellence Branch, Douglas Ansdell, Head, Gaelic Unit, Scottish Government and Laura Petrie, Director of Finance, Historic Scotland. This evidence session will finish at approximately 10.30 am.

5. The Committee will take evidence on the budget proposals relating to education and lifelong learning from Fiona Hyslop MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning. The Cabinet Secretary will be accompanied by Colin MacLean, Director of Schools, Andrew Scott, Director of Lifelong Learning, Sarah Smith, Director for Children, Young People and Social Care, and Chris McCrone, Head, Education and Lifelong Learning Finance Branch, Scottish Government.


Action

6. The Committee is invited to:

- Take evidence from the Minister and Cabinet Secretary on the Scottish Government’s draft budget for 2010-11 (agenda item 2); and then

- Discuss any issues arising from the evidence session for inclusion in the Committee’s report to the Finance Committee (agenda item 3). It is anticipated that the Committee will consider the draft report at its meeting on 4 November 2009 and agree the report at its meeting on 11 November 2009.

Emma Berry
Assistant Clerk
Education, Lifelong Learning and Culture Committee