



The Promise Scotland

SUPPORTING CHANGE FOR CHILDREN,
FAMILIES & CARE EXPERIENCED ADULTS

Finance Committee of the Directors of The Promise Scotland (SC693269)

On Tuesday 10 February 2026 at 09.30
at The Promise Scotland, Edinburgh, and online

Approved Minutes of the Meeting

Attendees - Directors

Jim Savege (JS)	Chair
David Garbutt (DG)	Director
Fraser McKinlay (FMK)	Director and Chief Executive

In attendance – The Promise Scotland

Asima Hussain (AH)	Finance & Central Services Manager
Gillian Graham (GG)	Executive Assistant & Governance Coordinator (minutes)
Morag Burnett (MB)	Head of Governance and Strategy

1. Welcome, apologies and purpose of meeting

Jim Savege (JS) welcomed Directors of The Promise Scotland to the 2026 Finance Committee. He noted that its purpose was to review and discuss the budget for 2026/27 for recommendation to the full Board.

2. Declarations of interest

There were no interests to declare in relation to the business of the meeting.

3. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the 2025 Finance Committee were approved at Directors' Meeting SIXTEEN on 18 February 2025 and were included in the papers for reference. All actions on the log are complete or in progress.

4. Draft Budget 2026-27

Asima Hussain (AH) introduced Papers 2 and 2a and provided the Finance Committee with an update on the proposed budget. A 5% reduction for Financial Year 2026/27 is proposed from the outset.

The planned saving will be reflected within partnership costs, which will exceed budget this financial year due to delivery of the Promise Story of Progress and Route Map work. As previously noted, this represented the peak period of activity at the midpoint of delivery, and costs are expected to reduce going forward. This approach aligns with The Promise Scotland's commitment to achieving obsolescence by 2030.



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The break clause in the current office lease has been exercised, and work is underway to secure new premises within a shared facilitated space. This is expected to result in a reduction in accommodation costs. Provision has been included in the budget to cover the costs associated with the office move.

The Scottish Government proposed adding a flat cash amount to the annual budget. It was agreed that further discussion with Scottish Government and The Promise Scotland Senior Leadership Team is required to determine how this funding could be allocated and whether there is sufficient capacity to support its use.

The Directors discussed the advantages and disadvantages of receiving additional funding after the budget has been set. It was noted that commissioning work would require dedicated resources and represents a significant piece of work.

FMK will meet with the Senior Leadership Team to develop a paper outlining options for the use of the additional funding and will circulate this to the Finance Committee for consideration ahead of the March Board of Directors meeting.

5. New Premises

MB provided the Committee with assurance that the office move is progressing as planned. The lease has been terminated, and plans are in place to vacate the current premises.

Provision for dilapidation costs has been included within the budget

6. Any other business

No other business was raised.

Governance Principles

Independence – Assurance - Proportionate – Transparent