



**PUBLIC PETITION NO.**

**PE01508**

**Name of petitioner**

Sean Clerkin

**Petition title**

ATOS as a sponsor of the 2014 Commonwealth Games

**Petition summary**

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the organising Committee to drop ATOS as a sponsor for the 2014 Commonwealth Games because ATOS have taken disability and sickness benefits away from poor and vulnerable people, reducing them to penury and extreme poverty. In addition, many people have died before the ATOS Fit for Work Assessment has been completed. The practices of this company are not compatible with Scottish social democratic values and therefore we call on the Petitions Committee to put our case to the Scottish Parliament so that the Parliament can reflect the opinions of many people in Scotland that ATOS be dropped as a sponsor for the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

**Action taken to resolve issues of concern before submitting the petition**

We have campaigned extensively, demanding that the organising committee for the Commonwealth Games, Glasgow City Council and the Scottish Government drop ATOS as a sponsor for the 2014 Commonwealth Games. We have engaged in various campaigning methods to bring this issue to their attention, to no avail. Therefore, we have drawn up this petition for the Petitions Committee of the Scottish Parliament.

**Petition background information**

ATOS have been responsible in carrying out assessments on sick and disabled people in Scotland and throughout the United Kingdom. To date, more than 2,200 people have died before the Fit for Work Assessment has been completed. In addition, tens of thousands of sick and disabled people have had their Social Security Benefits removed, reducing them to penury and extreme poverty. In many cases, those who have died either committed suicide or were terminally ill when passed fit for work. All cancer patients have been forced to undergo this extremely unfair assessment process. These sick and disabled people have been severely stressed when they should be left to live their lives with dignity. Scotland has different political values to those South of the Border, in that we are proud of our social democratic values of fairness and social justice. This petition articulates these values, calling on the Scottish Parliament to demand that ATOS be dropped as a sponsor for the 2014 Commonwealth Games, as they are operating contrary to these values in that they are ruining people's lives.

**Unique web address**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/GettingInvolved/Petitions/PE01508>

**Related information for petition**

**Do you wish your petition to be hosted on the Parliament's website to collect signatures online?**

**NO**

**How many signatures have you collected so far?**

0

**Closing date for collecting signatures online**

N/A

**Comments to stimulate online discussion**