

Justice Directorate
Legal System Division



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Franck David
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CONSIDERATION OF PETITION PE1280

Dear Franck

Thank you for your letter dated 28 October 2010 in which you sought responses to points raised in discussion by the Public Petitions Committee of Petition PE1280, concerning the Government's response to the review of fatal accident inquiry legislation conducted by Lord Cullen of Whitekirk. You also asked specifically what the Government's timetable was to respond to Lord Cullen's report and how and when it would take forward the recommendations.

At this time we have nothing further to add to Hamish Goodall's response dated 1 September 2010. As many of Lord Cullen's recommendations have practical implications for the Scottish Court Service and the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service we are continuing to liaise closely with them in identifying how the recommendations should be implemented.

We had hoped to have the Scottish Government response to Lord Cullen's review published by the end of 2010 but due to holidays and inclement weather that timetable has slipped slightly. We now hope to publish by the end of the financial year. It should be noted however, that even if the Government were to agree the recommendation there would still be a requirement for the Parliament to amend primary legislation. You will be aware that there is no scope in the Government's current legislative programme to make such an amendment

I hope this reply is helpful.

Yours sincerely

MRS SANDRA WALLACE