

PE1412/H

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Ur faidhle/Your ref:
Ar faidhle/Our ref:
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PUBLIC PETITION PE1412 ON BONDS OF CAUTION

Thank you for your letter of 27 September which was prompted by the committee's consideration of PE1412 on Bonds of Caution at its meeting on 4 September.

I am aware of the background and of the petitioner's request for the removal of the requirement for executors dative to obtain a bond of caution, one of the recommendations contained in the Scottish Law Commission's Report on Succession published in 2009.

My officials have provided a number of responses to questions asked by the committee confirming that the Report's recommendations are under consideration, including the possibility of progressing some aspects separately. They also advised that consultation will be necessary given the controversial nature of some aspects of the Report's recommendations and that this work will be progressed when other priorities allow.

You have now asked for an indication of the timing for

- ◆ the conclusion of the consideration of taking aspects forward separately
- ◆ the consultation.

Whilst I appreciate that the committee and the petitioner are anxious for more information, it is not possible to give a more precise timeframe for this work at present. However, although

unable to respond with precise timings, I would reiterate that this work remains under consideration which I hope will provide reassurance to the committee and the petitioner.

I am sorry that I cannot be more helpful.

Roseanna Cunningham