

PE1508/E

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In 2014 Scotland Welcomes the World



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Dear Mr Sharratt

CONSIDERATION OF PETITION PE1508

The Scottish Government has every sympathy with the individuals and families who have been adversely affected by the UK Government's welfare reforms. The Scottish Government's Housing Minister, Margaret Burgess, wrote to the UK Work and Pensions Secretary, Iain Duncan Smith, highlighting the Scottish Government's concerns at ATOS and DWP's administering of the Work Capability Assessment process and urged him to take the necessary steps to ensure that the very worrying cases that are being reported are never repeated. We note that it was announced last month that the DWP contract with ATOS Healthcare will now be ending early.

In terms of securing sponsorship for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, this is a matter for the Glasgow 2014 Organising Committee (OC). It should be acknowledged, however, that the OC contract with ATOS does not relate in any way to the services it has provided on behalf of DWP. All sponsor partnerships are assessed on a number of levels and a very important consideration is how a sponsor will contribute to the mission and ambitions of Glasgow 2014. In addition, securing sponsorship is vital to the success of the Games and to reduce the need for additional public funds to stage them.

I hope this information is helpful to you.

Yours sincerely

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