

Deputy First Minister
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Maureen Watt MSP
The Convener
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Your ref:
Our ref:
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Dear Maureen

PROCUREMENT REFORM (SCOTLAND) BILL – UPDATE

In my letter to you dated 28 February 14, I indicated in my response to paragraph 168 of the stage 1 report there may be a need to bring forward an amendment in light of discussion between my officials and the Scottish Information Commissioner.

I am pleased to confirm that after further consideration and discussion with the Commissioner's office, we are satisfied that there is not a requirement to lodge an amendment regarding this matter. The relevant section within the Bill as introduced to Parliament is appropriately consistent with regulation 32 of the 2012 Regulations.

As stated in my letter to you on 28 February, we have agreed with the Scottish Information Commissioner that we will collaborate on guidelines for purchasers and businesses on accessing procurement related information and on the potential interaction between FOISA and rights of access to information under EU and Scottish procurement law.

I hope this update is helpful to the Committee.

Nicola Sturgeon

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