



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

EQUALITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
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CONVENER

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18 December 2018

Dear Convener of the Social Security Committee,

On 6 December, the Equalities and Human Rights Committee held a session with the Minister for Older People and Equalities on various aspects of her portfolio. In advance of that session, the Committee invited questions from the public which were submitted via social media.

The Committee's call for questions received a number of comments about disability and the Department for Work and Pensions. These referred to the overall treatment by the DWP of people with disabilities; Work Capability Assessments and the recent comments of the UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights Professor Philip Alston. Contributors questioned the impact on individuals' human rights and the impact the assessments had on disabled people.

As these issues fall more directly into the remit of your Committee, the Committee agreed to write to you highlighting the response we received, should it be of use to you in your future work.

Yours sincerely,

Ruth Maguire
Convener
Equalities and Human Rights Committee