Dear Deborah,

**BANKRUPTCY (SCOTLAND) BILL**

Thank you for the Committee’s letter of 2 December 2015 concerning consequential amendments in connection with section 16 of the Bankruptcy (Scotland) Bill.

I can confirm the Scottish Government will bring forward an affirmative order under section 55 of the Bankruptcy and Debt Advice (Scotland) 2014 in consequence of that Act, to amend section 7(2)(b) and (4) of the Bankruptcy (Scotland) Act 1985 to bring those provisions into line with section 16 of the Bill as introduced.

While the Government considers that the Bill could separately implement Scottish Law Commission recommendations 4 and 5, the intention is to lay the order this month. This will allow time for it to be considered by the Parliament and, if approved, brought into force in March 2016, before the coming into force of the Act which would result from the Bill.

The Government thanks the Committee for drawing these points to our attention.

A copy of this letter goes to Gregor Clark, Parliamentary Counsel at the Scottish Law Commission.

Yours sincerely

GRAHAM FISHER