

# Petitioner submission of 11 May 2022

## PE1855/G Pardon and memorialise those convicted under the Witchcraft Act 1563

Since we gave evidence on the last occasion we write to update the Committee with the campaign.

We wrote to the First Minister earlier this year asking if she would consider making a formal apology to those convicted on International Women's Day 2022. We were delighted when, as part of a broader speech on the issue of misogyny past and present, the First Minister gave that apology.

In relation to the pardon, we understand that Natalie Don MSP was working to put out the consultation document in respect of her proposed private members bill. We have had sight of a proposed consultation document and we hope that it will be made available to the public soon. We have no timescales on this and it may be best to ask Natalie Don for any further information in this regard.

That leaves the issue of a national monument. We would ask that consideration be given to:

- 1) the Committee either voicing its support for it to Government; and
- 2) to consider sending the issue to the committee which deals with culture and tourism – Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee for it to give consideration to the idea of a National monument as an important cultural matter for Scotland.

Claire Mitchell QC

Zoe Venditozzi

WITCHES OF SCOTLAND