

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for
Economy and Gaelic
Leas Phrìomh Mhinistear agus Rùnaire a' Chaibineit
airson Eaconamaidh agus Gàidhlig
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Convener
Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee
The Scottish Parliament

By email

Your ref: PE1933

17 December 2025

Dear Convener,

PE1933: Allow the Fornethy Survivors to access Scotland's Redress Scheme

Further to my letters dated 5 December 2024 and 7 February 2025, I write to provide the Committee with a further update in respect of this petition.

As criminal proceedings have now concluded I have had the opportunity to meet again with the Fornethy survivors group. I remain very grateful to the survivors for sharing their experiences with me and commend their bravery and courage in doing so.

The survivors continue to make clear to me that, for many of them, the priority is to meet with representatives of Glasgow City Council. I have again written to the leader of Glasgow City Council on 24 November 2025 to invite her to meet with the survivors.

On Wednesday 10 December 2025, the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry began to hear opening submissions in relation to Phase 10 of its' investigations. This phase will consider the provision of residential care for children and young people in establishments run by Local Authorities and establishments run by voluntary providers used by Local Authorities and others for care placements.

Twenty establishments, including Fornethy House, have been confirmed as part of this investigative phase with the period covered being from within living memory until 2014. Evidence will begin in January with hearings expected to conclude in May with Fornethy House.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

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I hope you find this update helpful. I look forward to discussing this matter further with you on 8 January 2026.

Yours sincerely,

KATE FORBES

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