

# **PE1934/I: Develop an educational resource on gender-based violence for all year groups in High School**

## **Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills written submission, 3 December 2024**

Thank you for your letter of 18 October 2024 on behalf of the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee regarding Petition PE1934 to develop an educational resource on gender--based violence for all year groups in high school.

The Committee has requested information on when the Scottish Government intends to commission an independent review of the Gender-Based Violence in Schools Framework and when it is expected to conclude.

I have committed to commissioning an independent review of the framework to establish positive practice and further areas for improvement, before the end of this parliamentary session. However, I also require to allow sufficient time for schools to implement this framework ahead of the independent review. It is my intention to commission the review ahead of March 2026. The timetable for the review will be set as part of the process of commissioning.

The Committee may wish to note that our relationships and behaviour in schools action plan, published in August 2024, includes an action to empower staff to support relationships and behaviour approaches and practice and to respond to emerging trends in behaviour. This includes scoping development of learning on emerging areas of concern, including gender-based violence and far-right extremism. As a first step in the delivery of this action, Education Scotland ran an information session on the framework for school staff in September 2024. Education Scotland will use the feedback from that session to determine if there are any areas where more bespoke training may be helpful.

I hope the Committee finds the information in this letter helpful.

**JENNY GILRUTH MSP**