

PE1979/NN: Establish an independent inquiry and an independent national whistleblowing officer to investigate concerns about the alleged mishandling of child safeguarding enquiries by public bodies

Ash Regan MSP written submission, 24 February 2026

Petition PE1979 was lodged in 2022; it would be unconscionable to ask these brave survivors and whistleblowers to go back to square one. The lack of meaningful progress from the minister is not the fault of petitioners, who have already shown extraordinary courage in coming forward.

Our understanding of sexual exploitation continues to evolve as more survivors speak out, in part from the confidence that at least some of those in their national parliament are listening. The incoming Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee in session 7 must be allowed to review this evidence of PE1979 and properly progress the work. To close this petition now would send a damaging message that engaging with the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions process demands everything from the public, yet too little from those elected to serve them.