

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

Kaukab Stewart MSP Minister for Equalities Scottish Government

18 November 2025

Dear Minister

European Disability Card and the European Parking Card

At its meeting on 18 September, the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee considered its fifth EU Law Tracker. This highlighted Directive (EU) 2024/2841, establishing the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities.

The Committee previously <u>wrote to you in April</u> seeking an indication of what your plans were for alignment with this Directive. In <u>your response to that letter</u>, you indicated that you would keep the Committee updated on your plans in relation to alignment with this Directive and highlighted the forthcoming Disability Equality Plan.

Further to that, we note from the <u>Cabinet Secretary for Constitution</u>, <u>External Affairs and Culture's letter of 31 October to the Constitution</u>, <u>External Affairs and Culture</u> Committee that there are no plans for alignment as:

"This directive falls under the Equality Act 2010, which is reserved to the UK Government. Nevertheless, in Scotland we are committed to ensuring that the policies that we create within the Scottish Government follow the social model of disability, where the overarching aim is to dismantle barriers to ensure that disabled people flourish within society."

It would be helpful to the Committee if we could have an update on what this means in practice and what plans you have in place as regards the social model of disability.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Karen Adam MSP Convener

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