The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

Simita Kumar MSP
Minister for Equalities and International Development
Scottish Government

8 October 2026

Dear Simita

Scottish Government response to the "Tinker Experiment" report

As you will be aware, the independent report Twentieth century policies affecting Gypsy/Traveller communities in Scotland: archival research was published in June 2025.

The report was accompanied by an apology from the Scottish Government for the "Tinker Experiment".

In its roundtable sessions held at the beginning of this session the Committee heard the concerns of the Gypsy/Traveller community about the lack of action following the publication of the report and apology. Specifically, the Committee was told that in the 15 months since the report there had been no reparations or redress to victims.

Before considering what further action it would wish to take on this issue, the Committee would welcome a response from you to the concerns presented to the Committee. Moreover, the Committee would welcome an indication of what actions you are undertaking in response to the report.

The Committee would be grateful of a response by 6 November 2026.

Yours sincerely

Katie Hagmann MSP
Convener

Contact: Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP. Email EHRCJ.committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.