



**Scottish Affairs
Committee**

Collette Stevenson MSP
Social Justice and Social Security Committee Convener
Scottish Parliament

By email only

16 September 2025

Committee report on Glasgow's Safer Drug Consumption Facility

Dear Convener,

Please see enclosed a [link to the Scottish Affairs new report on Problem drug use in Scotland follow-up: Glasgow's Safer Drug Consumption Facility](#), which I wanted to highlight given its relevance to your work on the cross-committee on tackling drug deaths and drug harm.

As you know, Scotland continues to suffer the highest rate of drug deaths per head anywhere in Europe. The opening of The Thistle represents a significant change in the application of drug laws in the UK and the facility could be instrumental in leading the way to address Scotland's drug crisis. We have carefully considered The Thistle's legal positioning, whether the facility can adequately meet the needs of the local population of people who use drugs and considered the impact of the facility on the local community, amongst other key issues which may be of interest to you.

I would be happy to discuss the Committee's inquiry further with you if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia Ferguson MP
Chair, Scottish Affairs Committee