

Convener  
Committee on the Scottish Government Handling of  
Harassment Complaints  
C/o Clerk of the Committee  
Room T1.03  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

By email: SGHHC@parliament.scot

23 October 2020

Dear Madam,

**THE APPLICATION OF THE CIVIL SERVICE CODE AND THE CIVIL SERVICE  
MANAGEMENT CODE**

I refer you your letter of 19 October 2020.

In that letter you have asked me to respond to the following question:

*“[W]hether you had raised harassment concerns that you were aware of in relation to the then First Minister, Alex Salmond, with the then Deputy First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon.”*

I can confirm that I was not aware of any harassment concerns and so did not discuss any with Ms Sturgeon. While your letter refers only to “harassment concerns”, for the avoidance of doubt, I did not discuss any ‘bullying and intimidatory’ behaviour by Mr Salmond with Ms Sturgeon either.

Yours sincerely

**Sir Peter Housden**