Legacy of Scotland’s role in slavery

Dear Mr Paterson

In my capacity as Convener of the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee, I have recently been contacted by an individual who visited a historic property. Following their visit, the individual in question did some further investigation into the property and found that it had been originally built by a family with a long and extensive history of trading in slaves and plantation ownership. While the family’s ties to the property are well known, the properties links to the slave trade appear to not have been clearly reflected either at the property itself or online.

While the Committee isn’t in a position to verify these claims directly, we would nonetheless be interested to know what steps HES has taken to ensure that historical sites in Scotland and their links to slavery are well documented and readily available to the general public.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely

Joan McAlpine MSP, Convener,
Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee