Dear Cabinet Secretary,

**Petition 1458 – Proposal to establish a register of judicial interests**

The Justice Committee considered the above-mentioned petition at its meeting of 19 November. After consideration of the evidence taken then and previously, the Committee is minded to support the principle behind the petition as we have yet to hear a convincing case against.

The Committee agreed that I write to you to ask you to review the evidence we heard this week and previously, and to then set out in detail why, as your letter of 3 April 2019 to the Committee makes clear, you do “not think it is necessary to establish a register of interests”.

It would also be helpful if you could provide further details on the Scottish Government’s view of what would be involved in establishing such a register and whether this would require primary legislation or could be achieved by some other means.

I look forward to your response.

Best wishes,

[Signature]

Margaret Mitchell MSP
Convener, Justice Committee