24 October 2019

Dear Convener

CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) BILL: SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT VIEW ON PROTECTED SUBJECT-MATTER

I write with regard to the Presiding Officer’s statutory duty under section 31(2A) of the Scotland Act 1998 (as amended), to decide whether any provision in a Bill relates to a protected subject-matter.

The Scottish Government considers that, on introduction, the Children (Scotland) Bill does not contain provision that relates to protected subject matter as defined by section 31(5) of the Scotland Act 1998 (as amended).

I am copying this letter to the Lord Advocate, and to the Minister in charge of the Bill.

GRAEME DEY