Dear Mr Fitzhenry

Post-legislative scrutiny of the Freedom of Information Act 2002

Thank you for drawing our attention to your recent letter to the Minister for Parliamentary Business.

I note that, in response to the Scottish Parliament’s motion of 21 June 2017 on freedom of information requests, you intend to undertake a new intervention to examine the concerns raised in the motion. While you say the precise scope of your intervention is still to be determined it was helpful that you were able to provide a general outline of what it may include.

As you know, the Committee sought views from the public earlier in the year on which Acts they felt would benefit from post-legislative scrutiny and the 2002 Act was suggested to us. The Committee shortlisted it as one of five that could be taken forward but, to avoid any potential duplication of work, agreed to await the outcome of your discussions with the Minister for Parliamentary Business before making a final decision.

In order to assist us with this it would be helpful if you could provide us with an update on the progress of your work, including remit and timescales, as it progresses.

I have included a link to the Committee’s webpage on post-legislative scrutiny for your information:
http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/105094.aspx

Yours sincerely,

Jackie Baillie MSP
Acting Convener