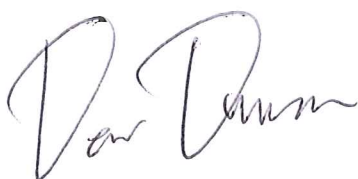


Convener Duncan McNeil MSP  
Health and Sport Committee  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP



Your ref:  
Our ref:  
17<sup>th</sup> March 2015

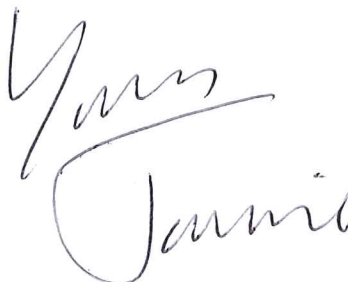


### Health and Sport Committee – Report on Health Inequalities

I am grateful to the Committee for the work they have invested in producing this report concerning one of Scotland's most pressing health concerns.

The Committee's conclusions concerning the primary causes and the need for coherence across portfolios resonates with the Government's developing and on-going strategy as we seek to tackle this most complex of problems.

I look forward to partaking in the Committee's planned innovative debate on this matter in Parliament next week.



**Jamie Hepburn**