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Dear Jim

Housing (Scotland) Act 2014 – Private Rented Sector and Letting Agent Cases in the First-Tier Tribunal

As you know the Scottish Government had been planning for the First-tier Tribunal to start hearing letting agent and PRS cases from December this year.

Unfortunately, due to budget pressures this has now been deferred by twelve months and the Tribunal is now expected to start hearing these cases from December 2017. The Government is still intending to introduce the First-tier Tribunal Housing and Property Chamber this winter, which will hear cases transferred from the private rented housing panel and homeowner housing panel.

The revised timetable will also mean that the proposed consultation about the detail of how the private rented sector and letting agents cases will be heard, including proposals on legal representation will be also be deferred until later this year. The Scottish Government undertook to inform Parliament of any policy developments on access to, and representation at, the Tribunal and will advise Parliament when the consultation is issued.

Kind regards

Margaret Burgess

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