

Stewart Stevenson MSP

Convener

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

Room TG.01

The Scottish Parliament

Edinburgh

EH99 1SP



17th March 2016

Dear Stewart

**STANDARDS, PROCEDURES AND PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE REPORT ON
COMMITTEE REFORM (1ST REPORT, 2016)**

I am writing in response to the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee's report on Committee Reform.

The Government has noted the recommendations concerning the membership, structure and operation of Parliamentary committees and is of the view that these will be matters for the incoming administration to consider in conjunction with other Business Managers.

My only other comment on the Report would be to reaffirm the Government's view, made in the context of the Committee's Inquiry into Post-Legislative Scrutiny, that the Parliament should adopt a proportionate and flexible approach to post-legislative scrutiny. Consistent with those principles of proportionality and flexibility, the Government does not support the committee's recommendation that the Government should be required to produce an implementation report for every Bill it sponsors. The Government does, of course, stand ready to assist those committees which decide to undertake post-legislative scrutiny of specific pieces of the legislation.

Yours for Scotland



JOE FITZPATRICK



