

**PE1319/T**

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29 September 2011

Dear Anne Peat

**PETITION PE1319**

Thank you for your letter of 2 September in relation to petition PE1319.

Since the public petitions committee meeting on 11 January 2011 we, in conjunction with **sportscotland**, have held regular discussions with the Scottish Football Association (SFA) covering a number of issues including the refresh of the Youth Action Plan. As a result of the comprehensive Henry McLeish Review of Football, the SFA have now agreed to implement a number of significant changes to both their governance structure and the youth player development pathway which includes the youth initiative and its registration processes. The SFA have now published their strategic plan entitled '*Scotland United A 20/20 Vision*' which highlights some of these and the SFA Chief Executive Stewart Regan would, I am sure, be happy to write to the Committee to outline these specific changes directly if that would be helpful.

The Scottish Government has consistently made it clear that the SFA and the football clubs have a duty of care for all of the young people involved within the youth initiative - these must be upheld at all times.

Yours sincerely

**Derek Grieve**  
**Head of Sport and Physical Activity Policy**