

**PE1369/H**

**Local Government and Third Sector Directorate**

Local Government Division

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Ms Alison Wilson  
Assistant Clerk to the Public Petitions Committee  
The Scottish Parliament  
TG.01  
EDINBURGH  
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\_\_\_\_\_ 19 October 2011

Dear Ms Wilson

**PETITION PE1369**

I refer to the above petition, presented by Jodie McCoy on behalf of South Ayrshire Youth Forum calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to require local authorities, under the “Power to Advance Wellbeing” provisions (Part Three) of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003, to undertake impact assessments when considering the provision of local leisure and cultural facilities. I replied to the initial questions posed in the petition on 19 November and to her subsequent questions on 27 January 2011 and 4 August 2011. I now set out the Scottish Government’s reply to the Petition Committee’s questions of 20 September 2011.

**What are your views on the issues raised by the petitioner in their latest response?**

Our previous replies have set out the current position in relation to the points the petitioner has raised. However, the petitioner refers to the Christie Commission in their latest letter. The appointment of the Christie Commission underlined the Government's commitment to public services which are responsive to the needs of all citizens, including young people, and I attach a link to the Government's response:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/09/21104740/0>

**Can you confirm when you will be publishing the consultation on regulations to make new duties under the new public sector equality duty as referred to in the second last paragraph of your letter of 4 August 2011?**

The consultation launched on 9 September and will run until 25 November 2011. There was an additional consultation on The Rights of Children and Young People which launched on 8 September and as I thought this would also be relevant to the Youth Forum, I wrote to them alerting them to its launch.

Yours sincerely

Carrol Herbertson