

## **Justice Committee**

### **Proposals to end the automatic early release of certain categories of prisoner**

#### **Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Justice to the Convener**

Thank you for your letter of 23 April in relation to the Scottish Government's intention to bring forward legislative changes to end the automatic early release of certain categories of prisoner.

I can advise that it is our intention to bring forward a Bill shortly that will contain provision on this issue. Subject to the normal process of pre-legislative scrutiny, I would expect the Bill to be introduced into Parliament in August 2014. It is likely the Bill will also include provision on release dates relating to helping ensure appropriate access to support services can take place for prisoners leaving custody.

I hope this is helpful.

Kenny MacAskill  
Cabinet Secretary for Justice  
27 May 2014