



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Public Petitions Committee

Claire Adamson

Via email:

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12 September 2019

Dear Claire,

### **CONSIDERATION OF PETITION [PE1673](#)**

*Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to create an independent, QC-led inquiry into the operation and running of child protection services in Scotland.*

The Public Petitions Committee considered the above petition on 5 September 2019. At this meeting, the Committee agreed to close the petition on the basis that the Scottish Government has no plans to undertake the action called for in the petition.

In closing the petition, the Committee agreed to write to the Education and Skills Committee to highlight the issues and evidence gathered in relation to the petition including concerns raised by the petitioner that—

- Child protection systems are not working effectively and differ in practice from the regulations and procedures that underpin these systems.
- There are inaccuracies in the Children's Hearing system relating to a lack of recording of the deliberations and no opportunity to challenge the contents of social workers' reports.
- The Care Inspectorate does not have sufficient powers to investigate individual complaints in child protection.

It is my hope that the evidence gathered from the petition may aid your Committee in any future work that it may conduct with regard to child protection matters.

The [Official Report](#) of the meeting and the video is available online via the [Parliament's TV Service](#).

Yours sincerely

**Johann Lamont MSP**  
**Convener**  
**Public Petitions Committee**