



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Public Petitions Committee

Clare Adamson MSP,
Convener
Education and Skills Committee

Via email:
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21 December 2020

Dear Clare,

CONSIDERATION OF PETITIONS:

PE1813: Reform the national curriculum to include all African Scottish history

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to reform the national curriculum to include Afro-Scottish history including artefacts of African diaspora, cultural and economic contributions, the role of the British Empire and the benefits to Scotland from colonies of the Caribbean and Africa.

PE1814: Compulsory education of Black, Asian, and minority ethnic history in Scottish schools

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to embed Black, Asian, and minority ethnic (BAME) history into the school curriculum.

PE1833: Raise awareness for dyscalculia

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to help raise awareness of the learning disability 'dyscalculia'.

[PE1835: Criminalise the submission of misleading or false information in child protection cases](#)

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to make it a criminal offence for any person to knowingly submit misleading and false information to a sheriff or Children's Hearing in child protection cases.

The Public Petitions Committee considered these petitions at its meeting on 9 December 2020 and agreed to close them

The Public Petitions Committee considered petitions PE1813 and PE1814 jointly and agreed to close the petitions on the basis that:

- the Scottish Government has committed to find ways of promoting diversity and better teaching and learning about Black and ethnic minority history and the importance of tackling racism in society today in schools;
- this is a large, long term project that the Committee is confident will be scrutinised by other areas of Parliament.

PE1833 was closed on the basis that:

- the Scottish Government has recently updated the statutory guidance on the Implementation of Additional Support for Learning, which explains the duties on education authorities and other agencies to support children's and young people's learning and sets out arrangements for avoiding and resolving differences;
- the Scottish Government has recently published its additional support for learning (ASL) action plan to address the recommendations of the independent review of the implementation of additional support for learning, and
- the Education and Skills Committee has been, and continues to investigate additional support for learning.

PE1835 was closed on the basis that:

- any individual who knowingly provides false or misleading information to a children's hearing risks potential sanction,
- children's hearings provide appropriate opportunities for participants to challenge information, and
- the Scottish Government does not consider the creation of a specific offence in relation to children's hearings proceedings to be necessary or appropriate.

In closing these petitions, the Committee also agreed to write to the Education and Skills Committee to highlight the importance of the issues raised in the petitions. The Committee believes there is strong merit in the issues being considered as part of

the Session 6 Education and Skills Committee's work programme and this may be something that you would wish to reflect in your Committee's legacy paper.

The [Official Report](#) of the meeting is available. A recording of the meeting is also available to view [online](#).

Yours sincerely

Johann Lamont MSP
Convener
Public Petitions Committee