



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## EDUCATION AND SKILLS COMMITTEE

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Dear John

Thank you for attending the Education and Skills Committee yesterday to give evidence on the Children and Young People (Information Sharing) (Scotland) Bill.

During the Committee's private discussion on the evidence it was agreed that I should seek clarification from the Government on the implications of the commencement provisions of the Bill. Section 3(2) of the Bill reflects that sections 1 and 2 "come into force at the end of the period of 2 months beginning with the day of Royal Assent."

Section 3 can be read to suggest that the duties in the bill would come into effect before the Code consultation and approval is complete. Alternatively, it may be that the intention is for the sections to be commenced, but only insofar as they would become sections of the currently uncommenced parts of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act. If the latter is the Government's intention, the Committee would appreciate clarification that the duties contained in sections 1 and 2 will not come into effect until a finalised Code of Practice is agreed and available to named service providers and practitioners.

Yours sincerely

**JAMES DORNAN MSP  
CONVENER**