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Margaret Mitchell MSP  
Convener  
Justice Committee  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

27 June 2016

Congratulations on your election as Convener of the Justice Committee. I know from my own time in Holyrood the vital role that the committees play in the Scottish Parliament. I am keen to ensure that productive engagement with the UK Government will continue over the next five years.

As you will be aware the UK Government remains committed to a positive relationship with Scottish Parliament committees. In the past, UK Government Ministers and officials have appeared before them regularly and Departments have submitted a range of evidence to assist committees in their inquiries into matters that fall within the responsibility of the Scottish Parliament and Scottish Government.

As a consequence of the Scotland Act 2016, a range of new powers will be devolved to the Scottish Parliament. A number of the powers in the Act have already been commenced and implementation has begun. For the remainder commencement will take place in due course.

Both the UK Government and Scottish Government are committed to implementing the Scotland Act in full and your Committee will play an important role in this.

I look forward to working with you.

**Rt Hon DAVID MUNDELL MP  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SCOTLAND**