



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Justice Sub-Committee on Policing

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By e-mail

4 October 2019

Dear Ms O'Donnell

### Facial Recognition inquiry

I am writing to you regarding the Scottish Parliament Justice Sub-Committee on Policing's inquiry into *facial recognition: how policing in Scotland makes use of this technology*. The inquiry was launched on 4 October 2019, and the Sub-Committee is seeking a written submission from Glasgow City Council in order to inform its scrutiny.

The Sub-Committee is aware of recent media reports that Glasgow City Council intend to upgrade its CCTV systems to introduce software called 'Suspect Search'.

The reports indicate that this software would enable those with access to it to locate and track individuals, for example, by uploading a photograph to the system.

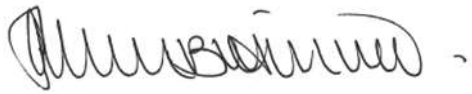
The Sub-Committee would appreciate details of the functionality of the software, in particular how it identifies people. Also, details of the type of information that would be shared with Police Scotland, confirmation of the operator of the CCTV system, and the proposed timescale for the introduction of this software.

Could you also please provide details of the Council's public scrutiny of this change of policy in the use of CCTV within Glasgow.

Please see the Sub-Committee's [call for evidence](#) for more details of its inquiry.

The call for evidence deadline is Friday 1 November 2019, and therefore a response by that date would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Finnie', followed by a small dash.

John Finnie MSP  
Convener, Justice Sub-Committee on Policing

Cc: George Gillespie, Executive Director – Neighbourhoods and Sustainability and  
Councillor Susan Aitken, Leader of Glasgow City Council