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Edward Mountain MSP
Convener of the Rural Economy and Connectivity
Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

1 September 2017

Dear Convenor,

Cyber Resilience – Draft Public Sector Action Plan and Best Practice Guidelines

I am writing to update you on the development of a Scottish public sector action plan on cyber resilience.

During the Scottish Parliamentary debate on cyber resilience that followed the WannaCry ransomware attack on 12 May 2017, there was considerable cross-party agreement on the importance of ensuring cyber resilience in Scotland's public sector. Following the attack, Scottish Ministers asked the National Cyber Resilience Leaders Board (NCRLB) to expedite development of an action plan to ensure appropriate standards of cyber resilience in Scotland's public sector.

The Board has worked in partnership with the Scottish Government and other key partners to develop a **draft public sector action plan and best practice guidelines on cyber resilience**. To ensure a full understanding of the implementation challenges that the draft action plan may present to the Scottish public sector, I have written to Scottish public sector organisations seeking their comments on the draft. Following receipt of comments, the plan will be finalised and implemented from autumn this year.

A number of MSPs asked, during the post-WannaCry debate, that the Parliament be kept informed of progress on developing and implementing the action plan.

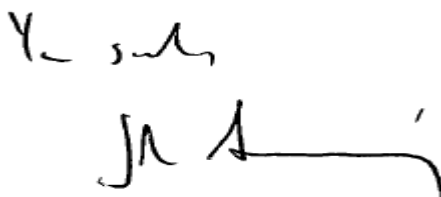
I enclose for the Committee's information a copy of the draft action plan and best practice guidelines. If helpful, members of the National Cyber Resilience Leaders Board would be happy to meet with members of the Committee to discuss the plan's contents and receive feedback.

In view of the pressing nature of the cyber threat, and the urgency of ensuring that Scotland's public sector is secure and resilient, I would be grateful for comments from the Committee by **22nd September 2017**. I will provide further updates to the Committee as work to finalise and implement the action plan is taken forward.

I look forward to working collaboratively with partners across Scotland to ensure our public sector is cyber resilient and that our citizens can have confidence in our digital public services.

If your officials have any questions about practical arrangements in respect of this letter, please contact the Scottish Government Cyber Resilience Unit on cyberresilience@gov.scot in the first instance.

I am copying this letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice, the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Constitution, and the Minister for Parliamentary Business.

Handwritten signature of John Swinney in black ink.

JOHN SWINNEY

cc. Cabinet Secretary for Justice
cc. Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Constitution
cc. Minister for Parliamentary Business