

# **PE2093/D: Review and update the Scottish Ministerial Code**

## **First Minister written submission, 26 July 2024**

Thank you for your letter of 4 July 2024 in your role as Convener of the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee, in which you shared information about petition PE2093, which calls on the Scottish Government to review and update the Scottish Ministerial Code.

In your letter you noted that the Committee had considered the above petition on 26 June 2024 and agreed to write to me to:

- highlight the Petitioner's submissions of 13 May and 14 May 2024;
- seek clarification on what consideration I have given to updating the Ministerial Code since taking office; and
- ask me to set out the process for appointing the Independent Advisers on the Ministerial Code, including whether any consideration is given to how long they should remain in post.

Thank you for updating me on the Committee's consideration of this petition. I can confirm that I do intend to publish an updated edition of the Scottish Ministerial Code in my name in the near future.

Independent Advisers on the Code are personal appointments made by the First Minister and are selected based upon their skills, experience, stature and impartiality. The length of service of Independent Advisers on the Code is a matter that is agreed between the First Minister and individual Advisers.

I would be happy to write again to the Committee with an update in respect of this petition on publication of the new Code.

**JOHN SWINNEY**