

Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice  
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Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP/BPA



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Dear Convenor,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the outcome of the most recent review of the pause on the Scottish super sponsor scheme (the Scheme). As you will be aware, on 13 July 2022 the Scheme was temporarily closed to new applications. Mr Gray, the previous Minister with Special Responsibility for Refugees from Ukraine, instructed officials to conduct a rapid review of the Scheme with a focus on sustainability and longer-term accommodation, and to develop a set of criteria against which any plan to lift the pause on the Scheme could be objectively assessed.

An assessment of the pause on the Scheme against this criteria was conducted by officials in June 2023 and presented to Warm Scots Welcome Programme Board who unanimously agreed to maintain the pause and conduct a further review in December 2023. At that time, I wrote to the Committee to advise them of this outcome and to update the Committee on the next review.

The most recent review in December 2023 has concluded that a continuation of the current pause should remain. A further review on the pause on the Scheme will be undertaken later in the year and we will inform the Committee of the outcome of that review.

I hope you have found this information useful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Anne Somerville'.

**SHIRLEY-ANNE SOMERVILLE**

