



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

George Adam MSP
Minister for Parliamentary Business
Via email

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3 October 2023

Dear George,

Historic Commitments – Scotland Act 1998 orders

Thank you for your evidence to the Committee at its meeting of 26 September 2023. At that meeting, as you will recall, the Committee asked about the Scottish Government's historic commitment to bring forward an amendment at the earliest opportunity in relation to the *Scotland Act 1998 (Specification of Functions and Transfer of Property etc.) Order 2019 (SSI 2019/183)*. In response, the Committee heard that the Scottish Government is "reliant on the UK Government to help us to identify an appropriate Scotland Act 1988 [sic] order vehicle. We have not managed to do that yet. However, we are continuing to discuss that¹."

This follows on from your written update on 2 March 2023², that "the Scottish Government and UK Government need to identify a suitable instrument that the amendment can be included in and discussions about this are on-going."

The Committee would be grateful if you could advise what the delay is in identifying an appropriate Scotland Act order, and what could be done to speed up the process of meeting this commitment?

We will write in similar terms to the Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland on this issue.

¹ <https://www.parliament.scot/api/sitecore/CustomMedia/OfficialReport?meetingId=15460>

² [Minister for Parliamentary Business.dot](#)



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We request a response to this letter by 26 October 2023.

Yours sincerely,

Stuart McMillan MSP
Convener of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee