



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

Malcolm Graham
Chief Executive
Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service

24 February 2025

Dear Malcolm

Development of new Hearing Suites

At its meeting on Tuesday 4 February the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee considered its work programme and, amongst other things, agreed to write to you to seek an update on the development of three new hearing suites designed following consultation with children and young people with Additional Support Needs.

The Committee has a long-standing interest in children's participation in courts' decision-making processes.

In March 2023 the Committee visited the Health and Education Chamber of the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland for Children with Additional Support Needs to see how children's voices can be heard.

In the course of that visit the Committee heard about the development of these three new hearing suites and members are seeking an update on how the suites are being used in practice and how they are impacting the lives of children and young people.

I would be grateful of a response by **14 March 2025**.

Yours sincerely

Karen Adam MSP
Convener

Contact: Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP. Email EHRCJ.committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.