

Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee

Social Justice and Social Security Committee The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

c/o Clerk to the Committee The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

rural.committee@parliament.scot

23 August 2022

By email only

Dear Convener

Inquiry into Child Poverty: Parental Employment

Thank you for your letter, dated 27 June 2022, highlighting your Committee's inquiry into child poverty and parental employment. My Committee has no immediate plans to consider child poverty as part of our upcoming work programme. I will, however, keep you updated should the Committee decide to consider related issues.

You may already be aware that the <u>Scottish Government's 2021 National Islands Plan Annual Report</u>, commits to aligning its ambition to eradicate child poverty with the National Islands Plan by continuing to work with island local authorities and health boards to build on their understanding of child poverty in their areas. The report discusses the commissioning of a 'deep-dive' research project, which was <u>published in June 2022</u>. According to the annual report, this will help the Scottish Government to improve its understanding of child poverty in rural and island areas and will support the government's understanding of what support and interventions will most effectively meet the particular needs of children and young people across rural and island communities.

Yours sincerely

Finlay Carson MSP,

Convener,

Rural Affairs, Island and Natural Environment Committee