The Committee will meet at 2.00 pm in Committee Room 6

1. **Consideration of new petitions:** The Committee will give consideration to the following new petitions—

   - **PE1135** Review of guidelines to allow healthy gay and bisexual men to donate blood
   - Rob McDowall will make a brief statement to the Committee in support of his petition accompanied by Mr Nick Henderson and Miss Angela Paton

   - **PE1134** Bond of Caution

   - **PE1136** Trial by jury in criminal and civil cases

2. **Consideration of current petitions:** The Committee will give further consideration to the following current petitions—

   - **PE504** Publication of criminal memoirs  
   - **PE535** and **PE888** Institutional child abuse
   - **PE867** Vulnerable adults and surreptitious medication
   - **PE899**, **PE1106** Victim Notification Scheme
   - **PE908**, **PE909**, **PE1007** Traffic regulation orders and disabled parking bays
   - **PE931** Skin cancer
   - **PE1023** Residential care for the elderly
   - **PE1032** Standard of care for the housebound elderly
   - **PE1036** and **PE1069** Employment for disabled people
   - **PE1044** Physiotherapists guarantee
Access rights under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003
Provision of ambulance services
Provision of motorcycle facilities
Diagnosis and treatment of psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis
Review of recruitment policies for foreign teachers
and NHS hospital car parking charges. The Committee will hear oral evidence from—

Mr Tom Divers OBE, Chief Executive, Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board;
Mr Billy Hunter, Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board;
Mr Gerry Marr, Chief Operating Officer, NHS Tayside; and
Mr Brian Main, Head of Support Services/Site Manager, NHS Tayside

3. **Notification of new petitions:** The Committee will consider a paper indicating new petitions lodged since the last Committee meeting.

4. **Scottish Government’s consultation on 2014 Commonwealth Games**
   - **Delivering a lasting legacy for Scotland:** The Committee will consider a paper from the Clerk.

Fergus D. Cochrane
Clerk to the Committee
Room TG.01, The Scottish Parliament
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0131 348 5186
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The following papers are attached for this meeting—

**Agenda item 1**
Consideration of new petitions

**Agenda item 2**
Consideration of current petitions

**Agenda item 3**
Notification of new petitions

**Agenda item 4**
Scottish Government’s Consultation on 2014 Commonwealth Games - Delivering a lasting legacy for Scotland
Consideration of new petitions

The Committee is invited to consider the following new petitions—

**PE1135** Petition by Rob McDowall calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to review existing guidelines and risk assessment procedures to allow healthy gay and bisexual men to donate blood.

**PE1134** Petition by Bill McDowell calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to amend the law of succession to end the requirement for a Bond of Caution by an executor-dative when seeking Confirmation of any intestate estate.

**PE1136** Petition by George McAulay calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to provide a right for an individual charged with any criminal offence to elect for a jury trial; for that right to be more accessible to those involved in civil litigation when the initial hearing and subsequent appeals to a Sheriff Principal and/or the Court of Session have been exhausted; and for the jury’s decision in such civil cases to be the final domestic appeal process before going to the European Court of Justice.

Clerk to the Committee
3 April 2008
Consideration of current petitions

The Committee will further consider the following current petitions and written submissions received—

**PE504** Petition calling for the Scottish Parliament to take the necessary steps to stop convicted murderers or members of their families from profiting from their crimes by selling accounts of their crimes for publication.  
Written submissions  
PE504/B: Minister for Justice letter of 21 February 2008

**PE535** Petition calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to (a) make an inquiry into past institutional child abuse, in particular for those children who were in the care of the State under the supervision of religious orders and (b) make unreserved apology for said State bodies and to urge the religious orders to apologise unconditionally. 

**PE888** Petition by Chris Daly calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive, in the interests of those who have suffered institutional child abuse, to (a) reform Court of Session rules to allow ‘fast-track’ court hearings in personal injury cases; (b) review the implementation of the Prescription and Limitation (Scotland) Act 1973; and (c) to implement the recommendations of the Law Commission report on the Limitation of Actions.  
Written submissions  

**PE867** Petition by W Hunter Watson calling for the Scottish Parliament to provide adequate safeguards against vulnerable adults being given, by surreptitious means, unwanted, unnecessary and potentially harmful medication.  
Written Submissions  
PE867/H: Scottish Government letter of 10 March 2008  
PE867/I: Petitioner letter of 18 March 2008

**PE899** Petition by Hazel Reid calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to review the operation of the Victim Notification Scheme to ensure that the victims of serious violent and sexual crimes are given the right to receive information about the release from prison of an offender who has committed a crime against them, regardless of the length of sentence imposed.  
Written submissions  
PE899/C: Scottish Government letter of 14 December 2007  
PE899/D: Cabinet Secretary for Justice letter 21 February 2008  
PE899/E: Petitioner's comments 20 March 2008
**PE1106** Petition by Jamie Webster calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to review those aspects of the Stewart Committee Report on Keeping Offenders out of Court; Further Alternatives to Prosecution, that relate to the rights of victims of crime to obtain information on the handling of the case.

*Written submissions*

PE1106/B: Scottish Government letter of 29 February 2008
PE1106/C: Petitioner's letter of 9 March 2008

**PE908** Petition by Connie M Syme calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to ensure that traffic regulation orders are applied to all disabled parking bays to ensure that they are used by registered disabled users only.

**PE909** Petition by James MacLeod, on behalf of Inverclyde Council on Disability Ltd., calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to review the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations to allow for speedier provision and enforcement of dropped kerbs and disabled parking bays to prevent their abuse, ensuring greater and easier access for disabled, elderly and other users.

**PE1007** Petition by Catherine Walker, on behalf of Greater Knightswood Elderly Forum, calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to prevent the improper use of disabled parking bays and to ensure that they are used by registered disabled users only.

*Written submissions*

PE908/B, PE909/B, PE1007/B: Scottish Government letter of 14 February 2008
PE908/C: Petitioner email of 22 February 2008

**PE931** Petition by Helen Irons, on behalf of Skin Care Campaign Scotland, calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to review its policy on tackling the growing skin cancer epidemic in Scotland.

*Written submission*

PE931/C: Scottish Government letter of 28 February 2008

**PE1023** Petition by Dr H I McNamara, on behalf of Highland Senior Citizens Network, calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to ensure that a greater proportion of residential care places for the elderly are provided for and staffed by the statutory sector, particularly in rural areas

*Written submissions*

PE1023/F: Age Concern Scotland letter of 7 January 2008
PE1023/G: Petitioner letter of 12 January 2008
PE1023/I: Petitioner letter of 17 March 2008

**PE1032** Petition by Elizabeth McIntosh on behalf of Renfrewshire Seniors Forum, calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to
improve care for the elderly at a local and national level and, in particular, to improve the standard of care provision for the housebound elderly, and to ensure that seniors forums are fully consulted in relation to the provision of care for the elderly.

**Written submissions**

**PE1036** Petition by John Moist, on behalf of the Remploy Consortium of Trade Unions, calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive, in partnership with Remploy and other sheltered workshop employers, to promote employment opportunities for disabled people by reserving local authority and/or government contracts to supported businesses, as permitted by EU Article 19 on Public Procurement.

**PE1069** Petition by Clive McGrory calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to encourage employers to provide home working opportunities for those with disabilities which prevent them from accessing the workplace.

**Written submissions**
PE1036/D: Scottish Government letter of 21 February 2008
PE1036/E: COSLA email of 31 March 2008
PE1069/G: Petitioner's comments on Scottish Government's response - 6 March 2008
PE1069/H: Scottish Parliament Equal Opportunities Committee letter of 18 March 2008
PE1069/I: Petitioner letter of 26 March 2008
PE1069/J: COSLA email of 31 March 2008
PE1069/K: Petitioner letter of 2 April 2008

**PE1044** Petition by Kate Mackintosh, on behalf of the Student members of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy in Scotland, calling on the Scottish Parliament to investigate the merits of extending the ‘One Year Job Guarantee’ employment assistance for newly qualified nurses and midwives to include newly qualified physiotherapists in Scotland, with particular reference to the benefits for patient care.

**Written submissions**
PE1044/D: Scottish Government letter of February 2008
PE1044/E: Universities Scotland letter 18 March 2008
PE1044/F: Petitioner’s letter 25 March 2008

**PE1061** Petition by Mr and Mrs Mark J Lochhead and Mr and Mrs Henry McQueen Rankin calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to ensure that measures taken by communities to tackle anti-social behaviour in urban residential areas are not restricted by the duty of a local authority to uphold access rights under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.

**Written submissions**
PE1061/E: COSLA letter of 30 January 2008
PE1061/F: Scottish Government letter of 25 February 2008
PE1061/G: Petitioners’ letter of 27 March 2008
Petition by John Grant, on behalf of the Community Councils of Highland Perthshire, calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to monitor the provision of ambulance services, such as those in the Highland Perthshire area, and to ensure that the Scottish Ambulance Service undertakes open and proper consultation with local communities, such as those in Highland Perthshire, prior to any changes to services to ensure that these always properly reflect the needs and safety of patients in the area.

Written submissions
PE1099/A: Scottish Government letter of 22 February 2008
PE1099/B: Scottish Ambulance Service letter of 20 February 2008
PE1099/C: Scottish Health Council e-mail of 25 February 2008
PE1099/E: Scottish Police Federation Response 21 January 2008
PE1099/F: NHS 24 Response 5 February 2008

Petition by Bob Reid, on behalf of Scottish Auto Cycle Union and North Lanarkshire Scramble and Quad Bike Club, calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to review planning and environmental regulations to allow for the provision of safe local and national off road motorcycle facilities, including a Centre of Excellence in North Lanarkshire, as a way of tackling anti-social behaviour, promoting youth citizenship and improving health.

Written submissions
PE1100/A: Royal Town Planning Institute letter of 12 February 2008
PE1100/B: COSLA response of 12 March 2008
PE1100/C: North Lanarkshire Council letter of 1 April 2008
PE1100/D: Petitioner response of 1 April 2008

Petition by Janice Johnson, on behalf of Psoriasis Scotland-PSALV, calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to urgently develop clinical guidelines on the diagnosis and treatment of psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis: to develop national standards of care for people with psoriasis/psoriatic arthritis; and to define psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis as chronic conditions to be included in the list of conditions exempt from prescription charges.

Written submissions
PE1109/A: NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde letter 8 February 2008
PE1109/B: SIGN letter of 13 February 2008
PE1109/C: Dr Girish Gupta letter of 7 March 2008
PE1109/D: Scottish Government letter of 19 March 2008
PE1109/E: Petitioner response 31 March 2008
PE1109/F: Research paper sent as part of PE1109/E

Petition by Kevin O’Connor calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to review the policies, guidance and procedures that apply to the recruitment process of foreign teachers and the right of recourse to investigate claims of discrimination.

Written submissions
PE1110/A: Scottish Government letter of 21 February 2008
PE1110/B: Petitioner e-mail of 22 February 2008

PE1086 Petition by Chris Paterson calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to issue new guidance to health boards to remove excessive charges for car parking, particularly for those staff who work shifts and for whom public transport alternatives are limited.

PE1091 Petition by Mary Murray calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to review the levying by NHS Boards of car parking charges at NHS hospitals, such as that proposed by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde at Stobhill Hospital.

Clerk to the Committee
4 April 2008
1. The Committee is invited to note the following new petitions lodged since the last Committee meeting on 18 March 2008—

PE1137 Petition by Carol Ann Bowmaker calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to amend all relevant legislation to ensure that private tenants have a right to be notified when their landlord has applied for planning permission to demolish their home.

2. The Committee is also invited to note the following new e-petitions which have been posted on to the e-petition site since the last Committee meeting—

Petition by Myles Fitzpatrick calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to consider whether it is satisfied with the policy and guidance issued by it under which NHS Boards may destroy a patients’ medical records and whether this policy in any way hinders the right of an individual whose records have been destroyed to then access medical treatment on the NHS.

Petition by Elizabeth Cooper calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to amend the law to ensure that young people aged between 10 and 18 charged with serious offences are tried by the criminal justice system rather than the children’s hearing system.

Petition by Mrs Annmargaret Watson, on behalf of Fire Reforms Actions Group, calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to review current legislation to ensure that each local authority is represented on the fire service joint board to ensure that board decisions reflect local concerns and views and to revise legislation which prevents local authorities from increasing fire cover without full joint board authorisation and to bring this into line with police service cover.

Petition by William Smith calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to make mandatory the provision of an audio recording of civil court proceedings to those parties with additional support needs such as dyslexia.

Petition by Jimmy Deuchars, on behalf of Grandparents Apart Self Help Group Scotland, calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to review the administration of child and family law services to ensure they are operating in the best interests of the child.
Petition by David Wemyss, on behalf of Aberdeen Prison Visiting Committee, calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to consider whether large prisons remote from prisoners' families offer the best way of rehabilitating offenders or whether, as an alternative, localised community prisons should be supported much more strongly to maintain genuinely easy access to family links and other community virtues.

Petition by Robert Kyle calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to allocate funding for the provision of permanent CCTV facilities in communities subjected to significant levels of crime.

Petition by Kevin Hutchens, on behalf of Aberdeen Trades Union Council, calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to review whether it is making adequate and sufficient funding available to local authorities for the provision of public and voluntary sector services.

Petition by Mary McIlroy Hipwell calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to amend the Succession (Scotland) Act 1964 to allow a person, in their will, to leave their whole estate to a surviving spouse or civil partner and to abolish the right of adult children to then claim on that estate.

Clerk to the Committee
3 April 2008
PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE

6th meeting, 2008 (Session 3)

Tuesday 15 April 2008

Scottish Government’s consultation on 2014 Commonwealth Games - Delivering a lasting legacy for Scotland

Purpose
1. The purpose of this paper is to invite the Committee to consider the attached letter to the Convener from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing about the Scottish Government’s consultation on delivering a lasting legacy from the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Background
2. The Scottish Government published its consultation paper on 15 February 2008 seeking views on how best it can ‘secure real benefits and a lasting legacy for the people of Scotland’ from these Games and the 2012 Olympics and Paralympic Games in London. The Cabinet Secretary has written to other Committees inviting views on the consultation paper by 9 May.

3. The Committee will recall it has had a number of petitions on the investment in, and provision of, local sport and leisure facilities. As recently as its meeting on 18 March 2008 it considered three petitions—

PE966: Calling on the Scottish Parliament to consider and debate the lack of investment in swimming pools in Scotland, what action is being taken to address the Sportscotland ‘Ticking Time Bomb’ report published in 2000 and how the goal to “increase and maintain the proportion of physically active people in Scotland” is being met.

PE990: Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to review the provision of community leisure facilities across Scotland, given for example the proposed closure of Ladywood and Queensway Community Leisure Centres and the Jackson Street Community Learning Centre facilities in Penicuik.

PE1041: Calling for the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to take the necessary steps to ensure that facilities and pitches used by all community-based sports clubs are of a standard befitting a leading European nation.

on this broad issue. The Committee will recall that, in previous consideration of these petitions, it wrote to the Scottish Government inviting responses on a number of issues including what impact the 2014 Games would have in improving the physical infrastructure and facilities at a local level. Members will further recall sportscotland’s National Audit of Sports Facilities (2006) and The Ticking Time Bomb report (2000) which refer to the capital cost of upgrading facilities to an acceptable level.
4. At the 18 March meeting the Committee agreed to refer these three petitions to the Health and Sport Committee to take forward as part of its current pathways into sport inquiry.

**Approach**

5. The Committee is invited to consider whether it wishes to respond to this consultation and, if so, what response it wishes to make. For example, it might wish to invite the Scottish Government to reflect, when appropriate, in responses to the Committee on future petitions on what role the Games will play in addressing the specific issues raised in the petition. This might not necessarily be in response to petitions specifically about the provision of sport and leisure facilities such as those referred to above, or the new petition recently lodged (still to be considered by the Committee) on the preservation of local ice rinks in the light of the recent spending review, but also to petitions on other wider matters. Members will note from the consultation paper that it sets a series of questions on the benefits of the Games in terms of the environment, health, education, crime and anti-social behaviour etc.

6. Members might therefore consider, when considering future petitions, that it was appropriate to ask the Scottish Government to respond specifically on how its policy of creating a lasting legacy from the Games will address the specific issues raised in that petition.

**Conclusion**

7. The Committee is invited to consider whether it wishes to respond to this consultation and, if so, what response it wishes to make.

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Clerk to the Committee
9 April 2008
As you will be aware, on 9 November 2007 Glasgow won the race to host the 2014 Commonwealth Games. At that time, the First Minister, the Rt Hon Alex Salmond MSP, made a commitment that the Scottish Government would launch a consultation process within 100 days, looking at how best to plan for securing a lasting legacy from the 2014 Games.

I am therefore very pleased to enclose the Scottish Government's consultation paper entitled "Glasgow 2014 - Delivering a lasting legacy for Scotland." This launches today and thereby fulfils our commitment. The paper is being sent to over 1000 of our key stakeholders and invites views on how best we can secure real benefits and a lasting legacy for the people of Scotland from the 2014 Games, and from the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games as a milestone on our route to the 2014 Games.

The publication of this paper is very much the start of the consultation process. It is deliberately not a detailed action plan, but rather a document which highlights the areas where we think there are potential legacy benefits to be had and can help deliver the Scottish Government's five key strategic objectives - to make Scotland Wealthier and Fairer; Smarter, Healthier; Safer and Stronger; and Greener. This process will include a series of public meetings during May and June which will supplement the written responses. It is intended to publish the Government's response to the consultation towards the end of the year, which will be in the form of a much more detailed draft action plan. Following that period of consultation, we expect to publish a five-year Legacy Plan for the 2014 and 2012 Games around July 2009.

I invite you, Convener, and your Committee to consider the enclosed consultation paper and look forward to receiving your response by the closing date of Friday, 9 May 2008. A copy of this letter has been placed in the Parliament Reference Centre.

NICOLA STURGEON