



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice

31 October 2024

Dear Cabinet Secretary

Renters' Rights Bill

At its meeting on 29 October 2024, the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee ("the Committee") considered the delegated powers exercisable within devolved competence in the Renters' Rights Bill ("the Bill"), as referred to in the Scottish Government's [Legislative Consent Memorandum](#) ("the LCM") lodged on 24 September.

To assist the Committee in its consideration of the LCM, it agreed to request further information in relation to Clause 140: Power of the Secretary of State to make consequential provision.

The Committee noted that clause 140 of the Bill is in the same terms as clause 135 of the Renters (Reform) Bill, which the Committee considered prior to dissolution of the UK Parliament earlier this year. In relation to that clause, the Committee requested further information from the Scottish Government by letter of [15 May 2024](#), and the Scottish Government set out its position in its response of [22 May 2024](#).

Given that this is a new bill, introduced following a change in UK Government, the Committee asks:

- **whether the Scottish Government's position in respect of the appropriateness of the power as conferred on the Secretary of State is the same as in relation to the previous bill;**
- **whether it remains the Scottish Government's understanding that consequential provision will not be made by the Secretary of State except at the express request of the Scottish Government; and**

Contact: Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP.

Email: dplr.committee@parliament.scot.

We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

- **whether the Scottish Government will agree to notify the Parliament of any request to the UK Government to exercise the power to make provision within the Scottish Parliament's legislative competence.**

I would be grateful if you could please email your response to these questions to: dplr.committee@parliament.scot by **Friday, 8 November**.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stuart". The letters are cursive and fluid, with the 'S' being particularly large and the 't' having a long tail.

Stuart McMillan MSP
Convener