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By e-mail

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Dear Convener,

Mental Health Moratorium consultation

As foreshadowed in my letter of August 2023 to the Committee, enclosed is a copy of the Mental Health Moratorium consultation which was published on 13 November 2023. It will run for a period of ten weeks with a closing date of 22 January 2024.

The basis of the consultation has been formed from the Mental Health Moratorium Working Group's report of recommendations, the responses to the Economy and Fair Work Committee's calls for evidence, and other stakeholder engagement which has been undertaken. The consultation sets out a way forward on the detailed implementation of the Mental Health Moratorium from the starting point that a scheme itself is accepted as the right approach.

The feedback to the consultation will be analysed with a Scottish Government response published shortly thereafter. The responses received will enable us to finalise the process for a Mental Health Moratorium and develop the necessary regulations subject of course to the enabling power in the Bankruptcy and Diligence (Scotland) Bill being passed.

I look forward to appearing before the Committee on 29 November 2023 with an opportunity to discuss the detail of the consultation and the other provisions within the Bankruptcy and Diligence (Scotland) Bill.

Yours sincerely

TOM ARTHUR MSP

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