

Scottish Government submission of 28 March 2023

PE2005/A: Formal response to the annual Adoption Barometer Report in Scotland

The Scottish Government would like to begin by acknowledging the ongoing engagement the petitioner has had with the Minister for Children and Young People, Clare Haughey MSP, and Scottish Government officials in relation to the Adoption Barometer Report.

Ms Haughey attended the formal launch of the Adoption Barometer 2022 report at the Scottish Parliament in June 2022. Whilst attending this event, Ms Haughey gave a speech where she recognised the report's findings and highlighted the Scottish Government's ongoing adoption policy work.

Further to this, the Adoption Barometer 2022 report was recently referred to in a Members' Debate in the Scottish Parliament on 9 March 2023, in which Ms Haughey acknowledged the findings of the report and spoke in further detail on the topic of adoption support. The official record of the debate can be viewed online here: [Members' Business — S6M-07728 Roz McCall: Scotland's Forgotten Children | Scottish Parliament TV](#).

Whilst the Scottish Government has welcomed the findings of the report, there are no plans to publish a formal written response. This is in line with our acknowledgement of previous publications of the annual Adoption Barometer reports. This is also consistent with the approach taken by other Governments across the UK.

We hope that the petitioners can understand that governments cannot respond formally to all publications. However, we appreciate the importance of the findings of this report, which will continue to inform ongoing policy development.