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Joe FitzPatrick MSP  
Convener  
Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice  
Committee  
Scottish Parliament  
By Email

23 November 2022

Dear Convener,

I am writing to make you aware that the Scottish Government has published a Position Statement on our implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) in Scotland. The Position Statement aims to assist the Scottish Parliament, civil society stakeholders and other interested parties in scrutinising the Scottish Government's human rights record, with particular reference to the rights of children and young people.

As you will be aware, the UK State party's next constructive dialogue session with the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child is due to take place in May 2023. Ahead of this, the UN Committee published its [List of Issues Prior to Reporting \(LOIPR\)](#) for the UK, a list of specific requests for additional information across a wide range of policy, delivery and data matters. The Scottish Government contributed to the UK-wide response to the LOIPR, which was collated by the UK Government, as the State party, and forwarded to the UN Committee in June 2022. Given the strict word limit set by the UN Committee, only limited information could be included in the formal response about developments here in Scotland over the reporting period.

Although the Scottish Position Statement does not form part of the formal reporting to the UN Committee, the document has been developed to cover the same time period as the LOIPR, from the previous UN examination of the UK in 2016 to present. The document chapters have been structured in line with the normal high-level headings for reporting to the UN Committee and specific sections take account of the issues raised in the LOIPR, as well as a small number of additional matters highlighted by Scottish children's rights organisations. Whilst not part of the formal reporting process to the UN, the document demonstrates the progress made in recent years and the Scottish Government's and Scottish Parliament's commitment to giving further and fuller effect to children's human rights.

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The Position Statement is now available on the Scottish Government [website](#). I hope Committee members and other stakeholders find the document helpful.

I am copying this letter to the Convener of the Education, Children and Young People Committee.

*Clare Haughey*

**CLARE HAUGHEY**

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