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Clare Haughey MSP
Convener
Health, Social Care and Sport Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

27 June 2025

Dear Clare

You will recall that in the SG [Memorandum](#) of 30 September 2024 to the Committee, the Scottish Government set out its conclusion that the Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill, as it stands, is outside the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament.

As the Scottish Parliament has agreed to the general principles of the Bill, the issue of legislative competence needs to be discussed between the Scottish and UK Governments. I have therefore written to UK Ministers to seek their views on whether the UK Government shares our assessment on legislative competence and what steps they might take to address the issue. This engagement will be on the understanding that both Governments will be approaching these discussions from a position of neutrality.

I will, of course, keep you and Liam McArthur MSP informed as this engagement proceeds.

Your sincerely



NEIL GRAY