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Mr James Dornan MSP
Convener
Education and Skills Committee
Scottish Parliament

12 February 2018

Dear James,

I am writing to update you on progress with the consultation and engagement on financial redress for in-care survivors. I have received the following update from the SHRC InterAction Action Plan Review Group:

“There has been good progress with the work on financial redress for in-care victims/survivors and I write to update you on the current position. The consultation for victims/survivors ran from the 4th of September to the 17th November 2017. I’m pleased to say we had a good response; a total of 179 responses from individual survivors and 2 from victim/survivor organisations. We are extremely grateful to all those survivors who took the time to complete the questionnaire.

CELCIS are now analysing the responses and will prepare a factual summary report, for sharing and discussing with the Review Group in the first instance, and then for publication on the CELCIS website. The analysis process includes additional independent oversight and verification.

The Review Group is now discussing the work required to develop the options paper and the timing for submitting that formally to Government. The research into international experience in the area of redress will feed into that options paper as previously outlined.

In addition, the Review Group has agreed that the Scottish Human Rights Commission will lead a focused piece of work to consider issues from a human rights perspective on distinct issues arising for survivors/victims of in care abuse pre-1964. Any issues that are directly relevant to financial redress will also be taken forward in the options paper.

As ever, the Review Group is balancing the need to ensure that this work is thorough and robust with the desire to move forward quickly to the next stage.”



I will of course continue to keep you informed of further developments.

*Yours truly,
John Swinney*

JOHN SWINNEY