

PE1439/G

Directorate for Local Government and Communities

Planning and Architecture Division

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**The Scottish
Government**
Riaghaltas na h-Alba



LEGACY 2014
XX COMMONWEALTH GAMES
SCOTLAND

Mr Stuart Todd
Assistant Clerk
Public Petitions Committee
The Scottish Parliament
T3.40
EDINBURGH
EH99 1SP

Our ref: A5509580
27 March 2013

Dear Stuart

PETITION PE1439: BETTING SHOPS AND PAYDAY LOAN SHOPS

Thank you for your letter of 1 March about the above petition.

You sought responses to the following questions:

- The Committee requests that the Scottish Government consider the concerns raised by the petitioner as part of its National Review of Town Centres and intended review of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Scotland) Order 1997. The Committee would be grateful if the Scottish Government would confirm this.
- When is it expected that the reviews will be complete?

We will consider the issues of concern expressed in the petition when we review the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Scotland) Order 1997. At present we do not have specific plans to review this legislation, we inform the committee when we commence this workstream.

The National Review of Town Centres, the External Advisory Group (EAG) under the Chairmanship of Malcolm Fraser, architect, has been invited to take forward the Town Centre Review, pooling their expertise and experience to identify the issues facing town centres. The group has been tasked with identifying for itself the areas which are being examined under the review. The presence of betting shops and payday loan shops, or any other specific type of business which currently operates within a town centre, are not forming part of these considerations. The EAG is due to publish its report in April.

I hope this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

ALAN CAMERON

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