

**PE1787/A**

Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service submission of 30 March 2020

*Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to ensure that all parts of the legal system use Makaton sign language.*

I am writing in response your letter of 10 March 2020 which was sent to the Judicial Office for Scotland.

Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service (SCTS) can only respond to the request in relation to court proceedings.

SCTS appreciates the diverse range of people coming to court and accessing our services. Makaton Sign Language is clearly a special requirement that needs support as is the case for other forms of interpretation such as language interpretation and British Sign Language.

If a request is made to SCTS we would treat this as no different to any other court user who requires support. We would make every effort to secure a Makaton Sign Language interpreter to ensure the individual is supported in order for them to understand proceedings and be able to participate in those proceedings.