

PE1789/G

Petitioner submission of 18 January 2021

Thanks for forwarding me the Government response. My response is that this is a positional statement by the Government. It obviously is clearly aware of the current diabolical situation but is doing nothing about it. To make reference to "The Promise" is a delaying tactic. "The Promise" is charged with, looking at improving child protection procedures and outcomes in Scotland. Its first remit will not be published until 2024 - 3 years down the line. The situation has been well known to Government for a long period of time, yet nothing done. There is legislation in place that gives Local Authorities the power to put in place such resources but lack of funding to them prevents the necessary number of trained staff in place. The net result is that far too many children and their families are traumatised and unable to fulfil their potential because of lack of Government funding to train and put in place sufficient fully trained staff to help. By failing to put resources in place now, it is breaching everything it pushes in GIRFEC and will leave a generation or more of children with little or no education and severe problems that will affect them all their lives. The Government response is just "kicking the can down the road" for a further number of years rather than address a serious problem identified by both professionals and families.