Dear Sir/Madam

Bill proposal – Culpable Homicide (Scotland) Bill

I refer to the above proposal to which I respond on behalf of the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service (SCTS). The response is submitted by the SCTS acting in its role to provide efficient and effective administration to the courts and tribunals and does not include the views of the Judiciary.

The SCTS cannot comment on the majority of the questions posed in the proposal as these do not directly affect the SCTS, however they may affect the SCTS, in particular those which seek to create statutory offences of culpable homicide in addition to the existing offences of culpable homicide at common law including the aggregation of actions of different officeholders.

The document sets out that these proposals would impact the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscals Service (COPFS) however we would ask you to note that there would also be an impact on SCTS resources which does not appear to be currently reflected in the proposal document.

Either of these proposals is likely to impact the SCTS in terms of:

- court time and relative court programming;
- associated staff and accommodation resources;
- costs involved in relevant IT changes.

Should specific proposals be taken forward, the SCTS would welcome the opportunity to be kept informed of any developments, including, where required, contributing towards any financial memorandum or relevant impact assessment.
I am content for this response to be published.

If you require any further information please let me know.

Yours faithfully