

Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service



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Dear Ms Dugdale

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION S5W-21249

Breastfeeding facilities for women waiting to give evidence in court proceedings

S5W-21249 asked: To ask the Scottish Government whether it would expect the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service to provide breastfeeding facilities for women while waiting to give evidence in court proceedings.

The Cabinet Secretary in his response to the above PQ indicated that it related to operational matters within the responsibility of the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service corporate body. I am writing in response to the matter raised

The Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service fully embraces the aim of the Breastfeeding etc. (Scotland) Act 2005 by enabling any person to be able to breastfeed a baby in the most appropriate place for them. This applies equally to everyone who uses the courts and not just witnesses. We welcome any individual requests for additional facilities and where practicable we will make these available.

Breastfeeding in courtrooms is also welcomed, subject to the interests of justice and conduct of court proceedings, and is a matter for the member of the judiciary presiding in each case. The clerk of court will be able to liaise with the member of judiciary on any specific facilities required for witnesses during the court proceedings.

I hope this addresses your question. A copy of this letter will be placed in the Scottish Parliament Information Centre and published on the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service website.

Yours sincerely

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