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Dear Mr Finnie

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION S4W-24417

The Cabinet Secretary in his response to the above PQ indicated that it relates to operational matters within the responsibility of the Scottish Court Service corporate body. I am now writing to you in response to the matter you have raised.

S4W-24417 asks: *What the impact was on each Sheriff court of the agreement between Police Scotland and Sheriff's Principal for a reduction in the court programme for Domestic abuse cases for the duration of the commonwealth games.*

Sheriff Court programmes were adjusted for a period of 9 days to reduce the number of criminal trials programmed during the commonwealth games with the exception of custody and time bar cases which proceeded as scheduled.

This did not materially reduce court sitting capacity with criminal trial diet reductions during the period of the Games being replaced with other procedural criminal business and civil business instead. Corresponding adjustments were applied to court programme in the period prior to and following the games to increase the number of available trial diets.

A copy of this letter will be placed in the Scottish Parliament Information Centre and published on the Scottish Court Service website.

Yours sincerely

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