

PLEASE USE THE F11 KEY TO COMPLETE THIS PRO-FORMA**CABINET SCANCE PAPER: CONTRIBUTION**

The Cabinet SCANCE Paper keeps Ministers up-to-date on major, topical or controversial issues, particularly those currently hitting the headlines, those likely to break in the near future or those which impact across portfolios. There is a standard format for contributions so that the finished paper is consistent, and the checklist below gives its main points. If you are unsure about what is needed, please speak to Angus Macleod () or Claire McGuigan () who will be able to provide more advice.

Please check that your contribution:

- will make sense to Ministers who are unfamiliar with your issue - an introductory sentence may help
- warns Ministers of the likely areas of controversy and media attention
- is written in complete sentences
- is one paragraph of no more than 15 lines (5-10 lines is ideal)
- has no bullet points
- has all acronyms written out in full the first time they are used
- always specifies "the Executive", "Ministers", "X Department" etc rather than "we", "our" or "us"
- always uses "the Executive" rather than "SE", "Exec" or "Scottish Executive"
- refers to Ministers other than FM, DFM and Lord Advocate as Mr/Ms Surname
- has dates written as Monday, 5 September

Please enter your contribution in the box below and check it against the checklist.

Mr Peacock appeared before the Public Petitions Committee on 29 September to explain and apologise for the delay in the Executive responding to the petition of Mr Daly seeking an Inquiry into abuse in List D and other residential establishments. Mr Peacock reiterated that the Executive does not plan to hold an Inquiry; outlined actions that the Executive is taking to address the needs of survivors and to ensure such abuse cannot happen again; acknowledged that abuse took place and expressed profound sorrow about the damage that had been caused to individuals. Mr Peacock told the Committee that the Scottish Law Commission had been asked by Ms Jamieson to undertake a review of the law on limitation which currently stops many survivors from bringing civil cases to court. The Committee expressed concern at the length of time any such review would take. Following the meeting the Committee decided to seek a debate in Parliament; this Committee debate is now scheduled for the afternoon of Wednesday, 1 December. Since 29 September officials have met with the In Care Abuse Survivors Group (INCAS), of which Mr Daly is a member, to explore what further action the Executive might take to meet the needs of survivors. Mr Peacock is also due to meet with INCAS on Tuesday 23rd November 2004.

Shirley Laing

Please send your contribution to your PS/Department, who will clear it with your Head of Department and Minister, and then forward it to Cabinet Secretariat once Ministers have approved its inclusion in SCANCE.