

Scottish Commission on Social Security c/o Secretariat Area 1C South (Mail Point 6) Victoria Quay Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

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16 December 2024

Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

By email only

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

Thank you for your letter of 25 September 2024 providing a further copy of the Winter Heating Assistance (Pension Age) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 and your invitation to undertake retrospective scrutiny on this set of regulations. Following receipt of the regulations we have had a number of helpful discussions with your officials regarding this set of regulations and the Scottish Government's approach to the delivery of Pension Age Winter Heating Payment.

We have noted with interest the evolving context and that a further set of regulations is expected to be referred to SCoSS by the Scottish Government in early 2025, reflecting the changes you announced in the Scottish Parliament on 28 November 2024.

We, therefore, have no further comment to make on the Winter Heating Assistance (Pension Age) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 at this time and look forward to receiving a further set of regulations reflecting the change in approach in the New Year.

We hope you find this letter helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Ed Pybus

Chair

Scottish Commission on Social Security