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Our ref/Ar faidhle: 2011/0002642

14 February 2011

Dear Dr Prestoungrange

Thank you for your letter of 2 February 2011 inviting Ms Hyslop to a viewing of the Battle of Prestonpans Tapestry while it is on display at the Scottish Story Telling Centre.

The Minister was very grateful for your kind invitation but unfortunately as indicated to your Assistant, Sylvia last week, the Scottish Parliament is in recess at present and therefore the Minister was unable to attend the photo-call today and regrets she will be unable to attend a viewing at any point later this week.

There was also recently a discussion about the possibility of a site meeting with the Minister to discuss the Trusts proposals for a home for the Prestonpans Tapestry that will also encompass a commemoration of the battle and appropriate interpretation. Whilst the Minister was keen to meet regrettably with the dissolution of the Scottish Parliament on 22 March for the Election in May it will not be possible for her to attend the upcoming Trustees meeting nor now to arrange an alternative date prior to dissolution where she could meet with the Trustees.

Ms Hyslop has however suggested that you may wish to consider a further discussion with officials from Historic Scotland in order to investigate funding issues. The appropriate contact would be Martin Fairley, Head of the Agency's Investment Team (martin.fairley@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or 0131 668 8691) and the Minister hopes you will take up this offer.

The Minister was also pleased to note that the Trust's recent Scottish Parliamentary Petition has received such a positive response and hopes that this will help in progressing the aims of the Trust's Prospectus and with forthcoming fundraising efforts. Ms Hyslop has asked me to pass on her best wishes for your future plans.

Yours sincerely

Mags Dickson

pp **DARREN DICKSON**
Private Secretary