

Mr Peter Still  
[peterstill1969@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:peterstill1969@hotmail.co.uk)

Your ref:  
Our ref: 2016/0002541  
January 2016

Mr Still

Thank you for your email dated 19<sup>th</sup> January to the First Minister's website. I am replying on behalf of the First Minister.

Firstly, it is not appropriate for the First Minister nor any other Scottish Minister to become involved in a legal matter. Employment issues such as pensions are correctly a matter between employer and employee and unfortunately the Scottish Government cannot intervene in individual cases.

I should explain I found it difficult from your email to understand the specific issue you are looking for a response to. I would suggest that you seek independent advice to clarify your position. You note you are receiving support from SAMH therefore you may be able to access free independent advocacy to assist you in this matter. I have provided contact details for an organisation which may be of help in your area:

The Mental Health Advocacy Project in West Lothian  
Mental Health Resource Centre, Strathbrock Partnership Centre  
189a West Main Street  
Broxburn  
EH52 5LH  
Phone: 01506 857230  
Website: <http://www.mhapwl.org/>

You also mention that you have a disability, speaking to an independent advocate may help you to understand your rights. NHS Lothian's website offers a list of advocacy providers, I have included contact details for a service in your local area below:

EARS Advocacy Service  
Forecourt Business Centre

Ashley Place  
Edinburgh EH6 5PX  
Phone: 0845 607 0129  
Website: <http://www.ears-advocacy.org.uk/>

You indicate you have had issues with your legal representation. Please note that any complaint in relation to the professional service provided or the conduct of a solicitor may be a matter for the Scottish Legal Complaints Commission (SLCC). The contact details are:

Scottish Legal Complaints Commission  
The Stamp Office  
10-14 Waterloo Place  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3EG  
Phone: 0131 2012130  
Email: [enquiries@scottishlegalcomplaints.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@scottishlegalcomplaints.org.uk)

I am sorry that I am unable to provide more assistance and I hope that you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Claire Grant

**Policy Officer  
Governance and Risk  
Scottish Government**