



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

Jenni Minto MSP  
Minister for Public Health and Women's Health  
Scottish Government

**24 February 2025**

Dear Minister

### **HIV anti-stigma campaign/Achieving Zero new transmissions of HIV in Scotland by 2030**

The Committee considered its work programme at its meeting on Tuesday 4 February.

As part of that discussion, it agreed to write to the Scottish Government to seek an update on what progress has been made in relation to Scotland's HIV anti-stigma campaign and achieving zero new transmissions by 2030.

Following your evidence session in March 2024, the Committee [wrote to you with its findings](#) and received [your subsequent reply on 17 July](#).

The Committee welcomes the Scottish Government's response to its recommendation regarding awareness education for the health and social care workforce and confirmation of further funding to support this.

As there are only five years left to meet the 2030 goal to eliminate new transmissions of HIV, we would welcome further updates on the areas covered in the correspondence above. The Committee is especially keen on updates in terms of:

- identifying and supporting those living with undiagnosed HIV, including gaps in mental health support;
- addressing stigma and removing barriers to testing, particularly for those in rural communities, where privacy and anonymity can be more of an issue, therefore the importance of awareness training for staff;
- uptake on PrEP and those attending sexual health services for the first time;
- emergency department opt-out testing pilots and progress in Scotland since the pilots (when will they be rolled out and what is the evaluation process?);

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Contact: Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP. Email [EHRCJ.committee@parliament.scot](mailto:EHRCJ.committee@parliament.scot). We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

- any other data you can provide regarding developments since last year. The Committee note the latest data from Public Health Scotland: [HIV in Scotland: update to 31 December 2023 - HIV in Scotland - Publications - Public Health Scotland](#) with the greatest rise in heterosexual couples and would highlight the need for a public health campaign.

This will help inform any further evidence sessions the Committee may wish to undertake.

I look forward to hearing from you and would be grateful of a response by **21 March 2025**.

Yours sincerely,

**Karen Adam MSP**  
**Convener**