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Dear Convenor,

I am writing to advise you that the Scottish Government will publish the responses received to the National Care Service consultation on Monday 31 January. The publication will take place through Citizen Space but we will also make links available to the Citizen Space portal via the Scottish Government Website.

The consultation received nearly 1,300 responses, of which about 200 of those have requested that their responses are not published. Within the context of a consultation where respondents might seek to use personal examples or details to support their points this is understandable. All the responses have been provided to the independent contractor for analysis.

The independent contractor (PWC) is making progress on production of the analysis report. I have asked officials to do all that they can to enable the publication of the independent analysis report before the February recess. The final timetable will be driven by the ability to prepare and publish easily accessible versions, written, BSL, and audible, at the same time.

I will send a copy of the final report to the Committee directly. I look forward to working with you and the Committee as we move into the next stages of this work.

Yours sincerely,



**Kevin Stewart**

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