

T: 0131-244 4000
E: ceu@gov.scot

Gillian Martin MSP
Convenor of the Health, Social Care and Sport
Committee
Scottish Parliament

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Dear Colleagues,

PUBLICATION OF REPORT ON COMPLEX CARE AND DELAYED DISCHARGE

I am delighted to write to advise you that the Scottish Government, jointly with COSLA, has published “Coming Home Implementation: A report from the working group on complex care and delayed discharge” today. I have enclosed a link to the report which has now been published at <https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781804350850>. An easy read version has also been published at <https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781804351147>.

We are committed to ensuring Scotland provides support and services in a way which ensures that human rights are respected and protected. Delivering on the recommendations set out in this report will be an important part of fulfilling our commitment to improve delayed discharge and reduce inappropriate out of area placements for people with learning disabilities and complex needs.

As you may recall, the short life working group (SLWG) was established by the then Cabinet Secretary for Health in March 2020 to improve delayed discharge and reduce inappropriate out of area placements for people with complex needs.

The report sets out a framework that includes the introduction of a new national register to improve monitoring and performance, a new support panel to provide national oversight of the register, and a peer support network to share best practice.

Strong local and national partnerships and genuine collaboration will be essential to deliver the quality services needed to deliver on these recommendations. This must happen as a matter of priority and there must be real visibility and accountability for people with complex care needs going forward.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Stewart
Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care