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Ms Gillian Martin, Convener of the Health,  
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30 September 2022

Dear Gillian

## **SCOTTISH MENTAL HEALTH LAW REVIEW – Publication of final report**

I am writing to you in my role as the Minister for Mental Wellbeing & Social Care to update you and the wider membership of the Health, Social Care & Sport Committee regarding the independent Scottish Mental Health Law Review (SMHLR)

The Scottish Government is committed to make a positive and meaningful difference to people with mental health issues which is why, in March 2019, we announced that there would be an overarching review of our mental health, incapacity and adult protection legislation, chaired by Lord Scott.

The Review was tasked with considering and then making recommendations to ensure that the legislation reflects developments in international human rights including UNCRPD and considering the need for the convergence of incapacity, mental health and adult support and protection legislation. Over the last 3 years, the Review team has conducted two public consultations and engaged widely with those with lived experience, carers and practitioners.

I am writing to advise you that the final report is to be published on the SMHLR website on Friday 30 September; <https://mentalhealthlawreview.scot/>  
This Government wants to ensure that Scotland's legislative framework continues to lead the world and the work of the Review therefore plays a key role in laying the foundations for future reforms.

The Scottish Government will carefully consider the recommendations within the report to ascertain how to better fulfil our obligation to promote and protect human rights within mental health settings and to ensure that rights and protections for those that need it most are upheld.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)



I hope that you and your fellow Committee members find this information useful.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Stewart', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Kevin Stewart MSP**

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