

Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport
Maree Todd MSP

Clare Haughey MSP
Convener, Health, Social Care and Sport
Committee

By email: hscs.committee@parliament.scot

23 May 2023

Dear Convener

Summer 2023 National Care Service co-design events

At my appearance before the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee on 9 May, I undertook to write to you with more information about our plans for National Care Service co-design events in summer 2023, when it was available.

As I have said previously, people and local communities are at the heart of our planning for a National Care Service and that is why we are focussing this summer on a hugely ambitious co-design tour of Scotland, which has launched today.

The programme will be centred around 'regional forums', to provide us with the opportunity to engage with a wide range of people and stakeholders across the country.

Regional forum locations

We are hosting nine in-person forums across Scotland and five online forums.

The in-person forums will take place as follows:

- Forth Valley - Tuesday 20 June - Albert Halls, Stirling
- Glasgow - Wednesday 28 June - William Quarriers Conference Centre, Govan
- Tayside – Friday 14 July - Hilltown Community Centre, Dundee
- Dumfries and Galloway - Tuesday 18 July - Millennium Centre, Stranraer
- Argyll and Bute – Wednesday 26th July – The Corran Hall, Oban
- Skye - Tuesday, 1 August - The Hub - An Crùbh Community Centre

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- Highlands - Tuesday, 8 August – Strathpeffer Community Centre
- Shetland - Thursday 17 August - Islesburgh Community Centre, Lerwick
- Moray - Tuesday 22 August - The Inkwel Centre, Elgin

To supplement activity at these locations, we are working with stakeholders to identify opportunities for additional engagement. This will specifically focus on allowing us to reach a diverse range of participants.

In addition, online events, to support the broadest attendance and accessibility, will take place on 24 and 29 August.

Format of the regional forums

Each regional forum will consist of three co-design sessions, focused on three of the five co-design themes:

- information sharing to improve care support
- keeping care support local
- realising rights and responsibilities
- making sure my voice is heard
- valuing the workforce

Although we have arranged each session around themes, people will, of course, be able to raise anything they wish at the sessions. Each forum will also have an drop-in session, held over lunch time. These will be open to anyone who wants to attend, including stakeholder organisations and elected representatives. Committee members would be very welcome to attend any of these sessions to listen to discussions.

It is important to note that this programme represents a first tranche of local co-design activity and will give us a strong basis on which to build so that we can reach more people over the next 18 months.

To find out more information about the events or sign up full details can be found at gov.scot/ncs.

Accessibility

Accessibility requirements have been central to our planning. Event information is available in a range of formats. The running order for each forum has been developed in partnership with local contacts and, where possible, it is wider than the usual “working day” to allow people to contribute to sessions around commitments they may have.

Refreshments will be available and participants will be able to claim for travel, childcare, replacement care, and any additional assistance reimbursements to remove barriers to attendance.

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An email address and phone number will be available so that people can get in touch if they need help to sign up to an event or if they have accessibility requirements to facilitate attendance.

I hope the Committee find this information helpful. I will share the outputs of the summer events with you in the autumn and will be happy to discuss them with you if helpful.

Yours sincerely,



Maree Todd MSP

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