



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Paul Johnston,
Public Health Scotland

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP
Tel: 0131 3485 979
Calls via RNID Typetalk:
18001 0131 3485 979
Email: HSCS.committee@Parliament.Scot

Via email only

21 November 2023

Dear Mr Johnston,

At its meeting on 21 November, the Committee considered the first report on the EU law tracker which was commissioned by the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee. As you may be aware, the EU law tracker sets out EU legislative developments within the scope of the Scottish Government's policy commitment to maintain EU alignment.

The report contained one case study within our remit. This relates to cross-border threats to public health. Specifically, it relates to the repeal of Decision No 1082/2013/EU and its replacement with Regulation (EU) 2022/2371.

The Committee would welcome any views you have on this development of EU law, in particular, if there are any elements of Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 that could, and should, be adopted on a UK basis. We would also be interested in any further information you can provide on the new research networks being established, and whether the UK is able to engage with, and benefit from, these.

The Committee notes that the earlier Decision (1082/2013/EU) is within the scope of the provisional Common Framework on Public Health Protection and Health Security. We would therefore also be interested to hear whether you consider the change to EU law results in any improvements that could inform the ongoing development of the proposed common framework.

More generally, as cooperation and protocols between nations are significant in this area, the Committee would also welcome your views on how cooperation on these issues is working to date.

The Committee would be grateful for a response by **Tuesday 16 January**.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "CHaughey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'H' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'y'.

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