

F/T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Ms Clare Haughey MSP
Convener
Health, Social Care & Sport Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

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Dear Convener

National Social Work Agency

As part of the Committee's scrutiny of the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill, the Committee has heard and received evidence from stakeholders about the systemic issues affecting social work. This was highlighted in the Independent Review of Adult Social Care in Scotland, which found the approach to the social work workforce was inconsistent and uncoordinated across Scotland, and proposed establishing a 'specific social work agency for oversight of professional development'.

Today, I have informed parliament, via a GIQ, that we have agreed to establish the National Social Work Agency, as an executive agency of the Scottish Government.

The National Social Work Agency will work in partnership with COSLA and Social Work Scotland, and wider sector partners. This is our opportunity to make a difference in our health and care system, to advance the social work profession and enhance support for people across our communities. We are committed to a skilled, supported and sustainable social work workforce in Scotland.

I hope this is a helpful update for the Committee.

Yours sincerely



ANGELA CONSTANCE

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