Finance Committee
Inquiries into Deaths (Scotland) Bill
Submission from NHSGGC

Response

Consultation

1. Did you take part in any consultation exercise preceding the Bill and, if so, did you comment on the financial assumptions made?

NHSGGC did not take part in any consultation exercise preceding the Bill.

2. If applicable, do you believe your comments on the financial assumptions have been accurately reflected in the FM?

Refer above - not applicable.

3. Did you have sufficient time to contribute to the consultation exercise?

Refer above - not applicable.

Costs

4. If the Bill has any financial implications for your organisation, do you believe that they have been accurately reflected in the FM? If not, please provide details.

As an NHS body, we concur with the FMs assertion that “any additional costs as a result of this Bill is unlikely to be substantial”.

5. Do you consider that the estimated costs and savings set out in the FM are reasonable and accurate?

It is very difficult to form a definitive conclusion as asked. We are of the view that in the absence of a more comprehensive exercise, the underlying assumptions appear reasonable.

6. If applicable, are you content that your organisation can meet any financial costs that it might incur as a result of the Bill? If not, how do you think these costs should be met?
Working on the assumption any additional costs of the bill are “unlikely to be substantial”, we would be confident of meeting them.

However, we are currently operating in a particularly challenging financial environment and any additional costs may required to be funded by the Scottish Government.

7. **Does the FM accurately reflect the margins of uncertainty associated with the Bill’s estimated costs and with the timescales over which they would be expected to arise?**

It is very difficult to form a definitive conclusion as asked. However, the margins of uncertainty appear reasonable based on the information available.

**Wider Issues**

8. **Do you believe that the FM reasonably captures any costs associated with the Bill? If not, which other costs might be incurred and by whom?**

Based on the information presented, the capture of costs appears reasonable.

9. **Do you believe that there may be future costs associated with the Bill, for example through subordinate legislation? If so, is it possible to quantify these costs?**

It is a reasonable assumption that there may be future costs. However, we do not believe we could quantify them at this time.