

## **PE2081/F: Make chronic kidney disease a key clinical priority**

### **Minister for Public Health and Women's Health written submission, 20 May 2025**

Thank you for your letter of 9 May to Neil Gray, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care. I am responding as Long Term Conditions, including Chronic Kidney Disease, as part of my portfolio.

Firstly, I want to assure you that the Scottish Government is committed to ensuring that all people living in Scotland with long term conditions including Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) are able to access the best possible care and support, and benefit from healthcare services that are safe, effective and put people at the centre of their care.

As you know, the Scottish Government is currently consulting on a new long term conditions framework to better recognise the fact that many people living with long term conditions, including CKD need the same types of support and care, regardless of their condition. The consultation will provide a valuable opportunity for us to hear from individuals, organisations and members of the public to contribute their views and I welcome Kidney Research UK's participation in the early engagement work that officials have already undertaken with clinicians, patients, carers and third sector organisations to find out what matters to them.

The themes of the subsequent framework will be informed by the consultation responses we receive, and I would therefore welcome responses from Kidney Research UK, other organisations and patients who have CKD.

In regard to the specific point you raise on Clinical Priorities and the team within the Health and Social Care Directorates. The Scottish Government does not designate certain conditions as 'key clinical priorities'. While there is a Long Term Conditions Policy (formally Clinical Priorities) Unit in DG Health, the unit does not cover all major conditions, instead working on the implementation of specific policies established prior to the development work on the Long Term Conditions Framework. There is a separate Long Term Conditions Strategy Unit which is leading on the consultation mentioned above.

I was pleased to confirm that I will attend the Kidney Research Summit on Chronic Kidney Disease, and I look forward to hearing when the event will take place.

I hope this update provides some assurance of our commitment to those living with long terms conditions including CKD.

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jenni Minto', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Jenni Minto MSP**