

COVID-19 Recovery Committee

Humza Yousaf MSP Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care Scottish Government

COVID-19 Recovery Committee Room T3.60 Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP <u>COVID19.committee@parliament.scot</u>

By e-mail

25 November 2022

Dear Humza,

LONG COVID

At its meeting on 24 November 2022, the Committee agreed to undertake an inquiry into long COVID, which will focus on diagnosis, treatment and current support available to those with long COVID.

The Committee plans to launch the inquiry early in the new year and has agreed to write to you in advance of the launch to request an update on the Scottish Government's policy on long COVID and the services available.

The Committee is aware you published the <u>Scottish Government's approach to long</u> <u>COVID</u> in September 2021 and held a Scottish Government debate on long COVID in the Chamber on <u>19 May 2022.</u>

It would be helpful if the update could include information on the following—

- Further information on the £2.5 million supported nine research projects commissioned by the Scottish Government into long COVID;
- Details of funding allocations of the £10 million long COVID support fund to date and future investment plans for addressing long COVID;
- Further details on the £370,000 supported national programme of improvement work led by National Strategic Network
- An update on the implementation of the recommendations of the National Strategic Network on the initial priority areas for improvement in relation to long COVID

- Details of those people who have accessed Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland's 'long COVID support services'
- Clarification on its position on long COVID clinics and information on which, if any, health boards have established them;
- Further details on the expert group set up to identify the capacity needs of NHS Boards and staff in supporting people who have long COVID;
- Whether the Scottish Government believes long COVID should be treated as a disability under the Equality Act 2010;
- How the Scottish Government is meeting the <u>recommendations of NICE</u> around long COVID service provision.

The Committee would be grateful to receive your response to this letter by **9** January 2023.

Yours sincerely,

Johne E

Siobhian Brown MSP Convener COVID-19 Recovery Committee