

T: 0300 244 4000  
E:

COVID-19 Recovery Committee  
Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

By email: [COVID19.committee@parliament.scot](mailto:COVID19.committee@parliament.scot)

3 April 2023

Dear Committee,

At the Committee's 23 March 2023 evidence session on long COVID, Mr Yousaf committed to provide supplementary written information on the issues outlined below.

#### NHS Scotland workforce – COVID-related absence

From 1 September 2022, all long COVID cases are recorded under COVID-related illness. COVID-related illness is calculated by subtracting COVID-19 positive cases from all staff absence.

It is important to note that some NHS Boards may be using this category to record other types of COVID-related illness other than long COVID.

COVID-related illness along with COVID-19 positive cases are published on TURAS. For the week ending 21 March 2023, a daily average of 528 NHS staff were absent due to COVID-related illness. This represents 0.29% of the total workforce, or 39% of the absence recorded as related to COVID-19.

#### Adult Care Home workforce – COVID-related absence

As at 21 March 2023, 319 staff were reported as absent from adult care homes for COVID-19-related reasons. This is based on returns from 672 adult care homes (a response rate of 65%). This equates to 0.9% of the 35,803 staff represented by the homes which submitted a return. COVID-19 related absence can include absences due to a confirmed COVID-19 case and absences due to effects related to long COVID.

Source: [COVID-19 adult care home statistics \(Care Inspectorate\)](#)

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG  
[www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot)



Accredited  
Until 2020



## Third sector grant funding from 2022-23 long COVID Support Fund

Further to Mr Yousaf's [letter of 22 March 2023](#), I can confirm that Officials engaged with Third Sector organisations in late December 2022 and early January 2023 to invite proposals for initiatives that they could undertake by the close of the financial year 2022-23 to support people living with long COVID.

Organisations were informed of the outcome of their proposals between 18th January and 27th January 2023, to enable planning and project activity to commence. Payments were processed to organisations on receipt of signed grant offer letters and appropriate paperwork. I can confirm that, as agreed with recipients, the funding is to be used for activity which will be delivered by the end of March 2023.

### YouGov polling

The dataset that Mr Yousaf referred to regarding awareness and recognition of long COVID can be accessed on the Scottish Government website at '[Coronavirus, cost of living and Ukraine tracker week 153 – data tables: February 2023](#)'.

I hope this information is helpful to the members of the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

**JENNI MINTO**

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG  
[www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot)



INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE

Accredited  
Until 2020

