Ministear airson Slàinte Phoblach is Slàinte Bhoireannach Jenni Minto BPA



Minister for Public Health and Women's Health Jenni Minto MSP

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Karen Adam MSP Convener Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee By email: ehrcj.committee@parliament.scot

26 August 2025

Dear Convener,

HIV TRANSMISSION ELIMINATION DELIVERY PLAN: MID PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Following the Committee's recent inquiry into HIV treatment and awareness in Scotland, I wrote to you on 17 March 2025 advising that the HIV Transmission Elimination Delivery Plan Implementation Group (HIV TEDI) was preparing a mid-plan report on progress in relation to the Scottish Government's HIV Transmission Elimination Delivery Plan 2023-26. Public Health Scotland has published the report today and it can be accessed at: https://publichealthscotland.scot/publications/ending-hiv-transmission-elimination-delivery-plan-2023-26-progress-report-to-march-2025/

The report outlines the significant progress that has been made on delivering the actions set out in our plan, and provides expert analysis of achievements and developments as well as some key challenges. It also reviews the current landscape, taking into account recent epidemiological and geopolitical changes, and highlights priority interventions to ensure we remain on track to achieve HIV transmission elimination in Scotland by 2030. Many of these are already underway, whilst others will be considered in partnership with the HIV TEDI Group as well as public, community and third sector stakeholders.

A key recent development has been the <u>Programme for Government</u> commitment to roll out Emergency Department opt out testing for blood borne viruses. I am pleased to advise you that following a successful pilot project in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, NHS Grampian will now

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be part of the first phase of this programme, in addition to NHS Lothian and NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde.

A number of further developments and planned interventions which have progressed since my previous correspondence in March are summarised in Annex A. I will continue to keep the Committee informed on this work and would be happy to engage further.

Yours sincerely,

Jenni Minto MSP

Copy to: Claire Haughey MSP, Convener - Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

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Annex A: Update on key HIV Transmission Elimination interventions 2025

May 2025

Roll out of Emergency Department opt out testing for blood borne viruses (BBVs) announced in Programme for Government, Following a successful pilot project, NHS Grampian will now be part of the first phase along with NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde and NHS Lothian.

June 2025

- Publication of Public Health Scotland (PHS)'s Sexual Health and Blood Borne Virus Action Plan 2023-2026: Data Monitoring Plan including key metrics for monitoring progress towards HIV transmission elimination.
- NHS Board targets set for BBV testing in key settings including drug services and prisons.

August 2025

- Publication of PHS' HIV Transmission Elimination Delivery Plan Mid Plan Report.
- September 2025
- Launch of Turas Learning Modules for Healthcare Staff:
 - HIV, Stigma and You Module.
 - HIV Testing Module.
- Publication of PHS' Annual HIV Surveillance Report.

October 2025

- Launch of phase 1 of HIV Transmission Elimination Toolkit on Healthcare Improvement Scotland - Right Decision Service.
- HIV Indicator Condition information on NHS Inform.

November to December 2025

- National Scottish World AIDS Day Event in Glasgow.
- HIV Informed: A Digital Information Hub for the Health and Social Care Workforce:
 - Launch on World's AIDS Day: Monday 1st December 2025.
 - Available for all health and social care staff in Scotland in all sectors.
 - o A one-stop source for information on HIV prevention, testing, treatment and stigma.
- HIV Indicator Condition Toolkit launch on Healthcare Improvement Scotland Right Decision Service (Phase 2).

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