

Karen Adam MSP, Convenor,  
Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice  
Committee

Email: EHRCJ.committee@parliament.scot

15 August 2025

Dear Ms Adam

## **EQUALITIES HUMAN RIGHTS AND CIVIL JUSTICE COMMITTEE'S REPORT ON SUICIDE PREVENTION IN SCOTLAND – NOTIFICATION OF KEY PUBLICATIONS**

Further to the Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport's letter of 20 March 2025, I am pleased to advise the Committee that Suicide Prevention Scotland has now published its Year 2 [annual report](#) for 2024-25. The report provides detail of progress to deliver the actions over 2024/ 2025 and sets out key achievements against the strategy's guiding principles. It also sets out the contribution each action is making towards the long-term outcomes set out in the strategy.

The Committee will be aware that in July 2024, Suicide Prevention Scotland published its [delivery plan](#) for April 2024 – March 2026. Progress has been reviewed on a continuous basis, with advice sought from the National Suicide Prevention Advisory Group (NSPAG) to support delivery and address any barriers to progress. I would like to advise that Suicide Prevention Scotland has published an [update](#) to this plan which details key milestones over 2025/2026 and identifies the partner organisations who will support implementation. It also sets out the actions for delivery over the remainder of the current Creating Hope Together action plan.

I would also like to advise the Committee that NSPAG, will also publish their annual report at the end of September. The report will provide impartial assessment on progress in delivering our 10 year suicide prevention strategy (2022-32), as well as advice on where further action is needed to drive change.

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## Work going forward

The Committee will also be interested to know that the Scottish Government will shortly be commissioning two independent evaluations. One on the partnership delivery model (Suicide Prevention Scotland), and one on the Youth Advisory Group and wider Youth Participation Network. It is hoped both these evaluations will be completed in early 2026 and findings will inform future delivery.

Finally, we are currently working with partners to develop the next three year action plan which will cover the period 2026-2029. This will build on the significant insights and learning we have captured in delivering the strategy to date. It will also include active engagement with NSPAG, our suicide prevention Lived and Living Experience Panel and Youth Advisory Group, local suicide prevention leads and organisations working with groups and communities at higher risk of suicide. The new action plan will be published in early 2026.

I hope this information is useful. We will keep the Committee updated on publication of the new action plan and any other significant developments.

**Yours sincerely**

**Carolyn Wales**

Suicide Prevention Team  
Directorate for Mental Health

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