

T: 0300 244 4000
E: medicines.policy@gov.scot

By email to:

Clare Haughey MSP
Convener of the Health, Social Care and Sport
Committee
The Scottish Parliament
hscs.committee@parliament.scot

20 November 2024

Dear Ms Haughey,

Further to the discussion at last month's evidence session on the Independent Review of Gender Identity Services for Children and Young People at the Health, Social Care & Sport Committee on 29 October, and a specific question from Mr Gordon MacDonald, MSP, on any plans to extend to the temporary UK ban to limit the sale and supply of puberty blockers for the purposes of gender dysphoria / gender incongruence to children and young people under 18 years of age, I am writing to let you know that the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) is extending the temporary UK ban until 31 December 2024. The extension will come into effect on 27 November, after the current emergency legislation ends on 26 November.

I understand that the DHSC is continuing its considerations of a permanent ban.

I trust you find this update helpful.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Alison Strath FRPharmS
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer