

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

Helen Goss COO and Scotland Lead Long Covid Kids

22 September 2025

Dear Helen Goss,

Long Covid Policy

Thank you for your letter of 28 August which highlights Long Covid Scotland's decision to formally resign from the Scottish Government's Strategic Network for the Long-Term Effects of COVID-19.

With the next Scottish Parliament elections scheduled to take place in May next year and as the current parliamentary session draws to a close, the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee's future work programme for the remainder of the session is now fully committed with a combination of business that has been referred to the Committee (or is expected to be referred in the near future) and inquiry work that the Committee has already committed to undertake.

Regrettably, this means that there is no available capacity for the Committee to commence new proactive inquiry work between now and Parliament's dissolution in March next year.

Nonetheless, the Committee takes extremely seriously the issues you have raised. At its meeting on Tuesday, 9 September, the Committee therefore agreed that I should write to the Minister for Public Health and Women's Health on its behalf, with a request for her to address these issues directly.

<u>You can view the letter here</u> and I will keep you updated with respect to any response we receive from the Minister. The Committee will await the contents of this response before determining what, if any, further action it is able to take within current constraints on capacity in its work programme.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Haughey MSP

Convener, Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

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Email HSCS.Committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.