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13 October 2025

## Primary Care Walk-In Centres

Dear Clare

I am writing to inform the Committee of the Scottish Government's plans, as announced by the First Minister today, to develop options for new walk-in models of primary care.

Improving access to primary care is a key priority for this Government. We recognise the vital role that GPs, community nurses, pharmacists, dentists and other members of the primary care team play as the foundation of healthcare in our communities. This new initiative will build on that foundation by strengthening and widening the range of primary care services available closer to home.

We intend to develop a pilot model of 15 community-based walk-in centres to improve access to same-day assessment and small-scale diagnostics. These will complement, rather than duplicate, existing GP and multidisciplinary primary care services. The intention is that services would operate seven days a week from 12:00-20:00 and provide patients with an additional, convenient route to advice and treatment for straightforward health concerns.

The proposals will be developed in collaboration with NHS Boards, Integration Authorities, and primary care delivery partners. This work will also consider how the new model can best support early diagnosis and prevention, in line with the ambitions of the Service Renewal Framework and the Population Health Framework.

Officials will now begin work on scoping implementation of the pilots, which will include assessment of workforce, estate, and financial implications. I will ensure the Committee is kept informed as this work progresses.

Your sincerely

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**NEIL GRAY**

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