



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Caroline Lamb
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Care

Public Audit Committee
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The Scottish Parliament
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By email only

17 June 2022

Dear Caroline,

NHS in Scotland 2021

Thank you for your recent response to our correspondence on the Auditor General for Scotland's [NHS in Scotland 2021](#). Having now had the opportunity to consider this correspondence, the Committee agreed that it would be helpful to receive more detailed information on the timescales for the various strands of work referred to in the response.

NHS leadership

The Committee notes that as part of your succession planning work, you are developing a national talent identification process for aspiring CEO and Executive leaders with representatives from CEO, Chair and Board Human Resource Directors HRD groups. We further note that this work will involve ensuring the national process aligns with regional talent management and succession planning process in NHS Boards.

The Committee would be grateful if you could outline the anticipated milestones for the national talent identification process, including when you expect this work to be completed by.

It is encouraging to note that work is already progressing in some areas over the next six months to one year as follows—

- Refocusing health centric elements of Project Lift to expand into social work and social care;
- Developing a consistent national succession planning framework for NHS Chief Executives;
- Designing and delivering interventions to improve leadership diversity and inclusivity;
- Designing a programme of support for current chief executives; and
- Providing focussed induction programmes for Chief Executives in the NHS who have taken up post immediately prior to, or during the pandemic.

The Committee considers that it would be helpful to establish the expected delivery dates over the next year, for each of these strands of work.

Diagnosis and treatment backlog

Your correspondence refers to the publication of the NHS Recovery Plan in August 2021, and that further work is currently underway to address the many challenges presented by Covid-19. This includes the development of a Planned Care Delivery Plan and a refreshed Unscheduled Care Collaborative Programme.

Please provide details of when both the Planned Care Delivery Plan and the refreshed Unscheduled Care Collaborative Programme will be published.


GP data

The Committee notes the Scottish Government's commitment to improving the quality and availability of GP data and the range of work that is currently ongoing to support this commitment. This includes the establishment of the Primary Care Data Intelligence oversight group, the commissioning of Public Health Scotland and National Services Scotland to take forward a programme of work to improve GP activity data and the collaborative project between the Scottish Government, the Scottish General Practitioners Committee and the Royal College of General Practitioners with regard to an exploratory activity dataset from GP systems.

It would be useful to understand from this work what data is to be collected, when will it be available, and how frequently will it be published.

The Committee looks forward to receiving your response by **15 July 2022**.

Yours sincerely,



**Richard Leonard MSP,
Convener**