



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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Richard Leonard MSP
Convener of the Public Audit Committee

Our Ref: JB28832

14 November 2023

Dear Richard

Psychiatric care for elderly patients in Helensburgh and Lomond

I write regarding provision of psychiatric care for older residents in Argyll & Bute.

It has been brought to my attention that elderly residents with treatable mental health conditions appear to be receiving little support or treatment from psychiatric services in Argyll & Bute.

Instead, I am advised that the burden is being added to that of already overstretched GPs, who are instead expected to extend care provision.

It has been reported to me that some elderly residents are going without NHS care and some have had to resort to admission to care homes.

I would be grateful if you could take these concerns on board when the Committee considers the inquiry on adult mental health.

Many thanks for your assistance.

Yours sincerely

Jackie Baillie MSP
Dumbarton Constituency