The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

Alison Thewliss MSP
Minister for Community Care

10 November 2026

Dear Alison

Scottish Human Rights Commission "Tick Tock" report on ending institutionalisation for people with a learning disability and/or autism

Thank you so much for giving evidence to the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee at its meeting last week. The Committee welcomed the opportunity to explore with you how the Scottish Government is responding to recommendations made by the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC) in the above report.

While the Committee welcomed your ambition to make progress on ending institutionalisation for people with a learning disability and/or autism, the Committee found there was a lack of clarity about how you will meet this ambition.

The Committee would welcome more clarity. Specifically, the Committee asks that you provide it with:

- a clearer long-term vision;
- your vision of what progress will have been made by the end of this Parliamentary session
- a pathway to the long-term vision including short-term actions; and
- how success will be measured.

In order to allow the Committee to monitor progress, the Committee would welcome 6 monthly updates. It is suggested that these updates should be provided following the meetings of the Coming Home Delivery Group, which we understand meets on a 6 monthly basis.

In the meantime, I would welcome responses on the issues you or your officials committed to revert to the Committee on.

Contact: Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP. Email EHRCJ.committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

In particular, you agreed to write to the Committee on the following points:

- Numbers of individuals who have been moved into the community and what percentage of those have been able to stay in the community;
- Progress on examining the inclusion of forensic patients under 16 who have a learning disability and/or who are autistic on the dynamic support register;
- An example of where lived experience has led to an alteration in policy;
- Examples of what individuals are applying for under the independent living fund.

I would be grateful for a response by 9 December.

Given their interests in this issue, I am copying this letter to the SHRC and COSLA.

Yours sincerely

Katie Hagmann MSP
Convener

cc: The Scottish Human Rights Commission and COSLA