



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Lewis Macdonald MSP
Convener
Health and Sport Committee
Scottish Parliament

The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

BY E-MAIL

16 October 2019

Dear Lewis,

RE: PRE-BUDGET SCRUTINY

On 26 September 2019, the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee (CTEEA) held a pre-budget evidence session with the Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs.

In evidence, the Cabinet Secretary highlighted the role cultural activity can play in supporting outcomes across portfolios. With specific regard to health, the Committee discussed the preventative role cultural activity can play, particularly in relation to mental health.

I understand that the Health and Sport Committee is currently undertaking an inquiry into social prescribing with a focus on the sport, exercise and other recreational types of activity. As part of this inquiry, the CTEEA would strongly encourage the Health and Sport Committee to consider how cultural activities might also compliment other forms of social prescribing with a view to improving overall health outcomes.

Yours Sincerely,

Joan McAlpine MSP
Convener
Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee