
Report To:	Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel	Date:	27 April 2023
Report By:	Kate Rocks Chief Officer Inverclyde HSCP	Report No:	SWSCSP/22/2023/AS
Contact Officer:	Allen Stevenson Chief Social Work Officer Inverclyde HSCP	Contact No:	01475 715212
Subject:	National Care Service Update		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to update the Inverclyde Social Work and Social Care Scrutiny Panel on the latest communication from the Scottish Government regarding the proposed extension to stage 1 of the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill, which will see the creation of a National Care Service for Scotland.
- 1.3 The National Care Service (Scotland) Bill was introduced to the Scottish Parliament on 20 June 2022. The Stage 1 of the Bill was timetabled to finish in January 2023 with a further extension advised until June 2023.
- 1.4 The Scottish Government has indicated that it remains committed to delivering a National Care Service to improve quality, fairness and consistency of provision that meets individuals' needs. To ensure continuing engagement and co-design activities related to the National Care Service to be as robust as possible, the Scottish Government has indicated they will seek to extend the Stage 1 of the Bill to continue throughout Summer 2023 before moving to the next stage of the Bill.
- 1.5 Correspondence received from the Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport (Appendix 1) indicates they will seek Parliament's approval to extend the Stage 1 deadline beyond June 2023. The Scottish Government has advised it remains committed to on-going engagement and co-design with a wide range of people who access social care support, as well as the workforce, and this will be the focus of their engagement over the summer.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To note the correspondence received on the 17 April 2023 from the Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport.

Kate Rocks
Chief Officer Inverclyde HSCP

3.0 IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO	N/A
Financial		X	
Legal/Risk	X		
Human Resources		X	
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)		X	
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty		X	
Children & Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		X	
Environmental & Sustainability		X	
Data Protection		X	

3.2 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

3.3 Legal/Risk

This correspondence is in relation to the implementation of the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill which is currently at Stage 1 of the Parliamentary process.

3.4 Human Resources

N/A

3.5 Strategic

N/A

3.6 Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty

N/A

(a) Equalities

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) process with the following outcome:

	YES – Assessed as relevant and an EqlA is required.
x	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, assessed as not relevant and no EqlA is required. Provide any other relevant reasons why an EqlA is not necessary/screening statement.

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report’s recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report’s recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
x	NO – Assessed as not relevant under the Fairer Scotland Duty for the following reasons: Provide reasons why the report has been assessed as not relevant.

3.7 Children and Young People

Has a Children’s Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – Assessed as relevant and a CRWIA is required.
x	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve a new policy, function or strategy or recommends a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy which will have an impact on children’s rights.

3.8 Environmental/Sustainability

Summarise any environmental / climate change impacts which relate to this report.

Has a Strategic Environmental Assessment been carried out?

	YES – assessed as relevant and a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.
x	NO – This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme, strategy or document which is like to have significant environmental effects, if implemented.

3.9 Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
x	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

4.0 CONSULTATION

4.1 N/A

5.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

5.1 N/A

T: 0300 244 4000
E: MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot

Appendix 1

Paul O’Kane
Deputy Convener
Health, Social Care and Sport Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

17 April 2023

I am writing in response to the former Convener, Gillian Martin’s letter of 29 March addressed to the First Minister, Humza Yousaf, in relation to the Stage 1 timetable for the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill. I will be responsible for this Bill going forward, working with Michael Matheson, Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care.

This Government remains committed to delivering a National Care Service to improve quality, fairness and consistency of provision that meets individuals’ needs. The scale of this ambition will require the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill to progress in order to ensure sustainable social care services moving forward.

We wish to use the time ahead of the Stage 1 debate to find compromise and reach consensus with those who have raised concerns during the Stage 1 scrutiny undertaken so far. As you note, the Stage 1 debate is currently timetabled for the end of June. However, we see value in continuing engagement and co-design activities through summer before moving to the next stage of the Bill.

As you are aware, Stage 1 deadlines for Bills are agreed by Parliament. Therefore, it is my intention that the Minister for Parliamentary Business will seek Parliament’s approval, via the parliamentary Bureau, to extend the Stage 1 deadline beyond June. Officials will be in touch with clerks to discuss this further in due course. I am copying this letter to Business Managers for their awareness.

In terms of engagement, the Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care met regularly with a range of stakeholders, including COSLA and the unions, who are key partners in the delivery of the NCS, and I intend to continue that approach. The Scottish Government remains committed to on-going engagement and co-design with a wide range of people who access social care support, as well as the workforce, and this will be the focus of our engagement over the summer. We will hold a series of regional Forums, providing an opportunity for Ministers and officials to engage directly with people with lived experience of accessing and delivering social care support locally. Committee members would be very

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

welcome to participate in these events. We will also continue and deepen our co-design activity, in line with the five themes of:

- information sharing to improve social care support
- keeping social care support local
- realising rights and responsibilities
- making sure your voice is heard
- valuing the workforce

I am happy to provide more information to the Committee when it is available.



Maree Todd

Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE[™]
We invest in people Silver

