

eForum

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National Care Service Stage 2 Consultation: HSEU Response and Survey for Providers of Housing Support

The Health, Social Care and Sport Committee has issued a [call for written evidence](#) to hear views about the draft amendments the Scottish Government is proposing to make to the National Care Service Bill as introduced at Stage 2. The Unit is planning a response to the consultation and is eager to reflect the views of providers of housing support and supported housing. The draft Stage 2 amendments can be found on the [Scottish Parliament website](#).

Here is a short briefing about the amendments: <https://www.ccpscotland.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/NCS-Stage-2-Briefing.pdf>

The Unit is planning on responding to the consultation and we would appreciate any **feedback through [this survey](#) to feed into our consultation response**. We are eager that our response reflects the views of providers of housing support and supported housing.

If you have other feedback, questions, or would like to discuss anything further, you can reply to this email. The Consultation closes on 20th September, so please **send any feedback by 12th September**.

Programme for Government

Yesterday, the Scottish Government published the [Programme for Government](#) setting out their actions for the coming year.

Affordable Housing

£600 million will be invested in affordable housing in 2024-25, with the majority targeted at increasing social housing supply.

Removal of Charges for Non-residential Care

Regarding care charges, the Scottish Government has committed to 'continue to work with COSLA to identify options for the removal of non-residential care charges as part of wider work with partners on social care improvement.'

The commitment in last year's [23-24 Programme for Government](#) was to '...explore with Local Government and agree an approach to ending all non-residential social care support charges within the lifetime of this Parliament.'

Fair work

The Scottish Government has committed to increasing the pay of workers in adult social care who are delivering direct care in commissioned services to at least the Real Living Wage from April 2025.

National Care Service

The Scottish Government has confirmed that work will continue establishing the National Care Service by the end of the parliamentary term.

Bills

While draft provisions for the Learning Disabilities, Autism and Neurodivergence Bill will be published this year, the Bill is not tabled to be introduced in 2024-25. The Human Rights Bill is also not scheduled to be introduced in 2024-25. [The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice has written](#) to the Convener of the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee outlining the decision.

Technology Enabled Care in Housing Conference 2024

The Technology in Housing Programme invites you to attend the 2nd year of its in person conference. After the success of last year's inaugural event TECH is back! Join us as we explore how social housing can go back to basics by looking to the future!

Who should attend?

Housing, health, and social care providers who are:

- Committed to exploring the potential of digital technology to improve tenant outcomes.
- looking to learn more about the current digital and tech landscape in Scottish housing.
- Exploring cross sector collaborations, looking to bridge the gaps between housing health and social care
- Interested in the developing their understanding of technology enabled care in housing

The event will take place on **Tuesday 29 October 2024** at **The Radisson Blu, Glasgow**. Delegate rates start at £169 and places can be booked on [the SFHA website](#).

Digital and Data Capability Framework

[A new framework](#) has been developed by NHS Education for Scotland to support the development of digital capabilities for everyone working in health and social care in Scotland. The framework identifies the skills, knowledge and behaviours everyone needs to do their job and deliver safe and good quality care and support. The framework applies to the entire health and social care workforce in Scotland, and complements existing organisational and professional learning and development frameworks.

The framework is made up of 6 capability areas with 3 levels that give specific examples of what you should be able to do and how you should feel, for 3 increasing levels of digital capability. The framework is based on the vision outlined in the [Digital Health and Care Strategy for Scotland](#) to 'improve the care and wellbeing of people in Scotland by making best use of digital technologies in the design and delivery of services.'

Review of National Outcomes

The Finance and Public Administration Committee have published an analysis of the call for views into proposed National Outcomes as part of the review of the National Performance Framework. [The Housing Support Enabling Unit responded](#) to this call for evidence, supporting the call from other organisations in the housing sector for a new outcome in the National Performance Framework focused on home and housing support. The [analysis of the call for views](#) by SPICE references the Unit's response in regards to the themes of monitoring and evaluation framework, and resource allocation and capacity building.

New Reports: Transformational Change through Ethical Commissioning

Healthcare Improvement Scotland commissioned two pieces of research in relation to Ethical Commissioning to inform its work. One report focuses on [Exploring ethical commissioning in practice](#) more generally, while another report focuses on [Ethical Commissioning in Drugs and Alcohol](#).

Healthcare Improvement Scotland have used the findings from the two pieces of research in order to outline areas that warrant further exploration as part of the Ethical Commissioning agenda, and action under four key areas:

1. Investing in the skills and resourcing required to make ethical commissioning work
2. Developing locally driven solutions
3. Challenging the fundamentals of how our system currently works
4. Drug and alcohol specific findings.

More information and all of the research can be found on the [Healthcare Improvement Scotland website](#).

Recovery Housing in Scotland: Mapping and capacity survey of providers 2022/23

In August, the Scottish Government published findings from a survey to better understand the provision and capacity of recovery housing facilities for drug and alcohol use in Scotland. The report aims to identify key characteristics of recovery housing services and better understand current access and capacity, in order to inform future policy and planning. The report is available on the [Scottish Government website](#).

National Report on the Scottish Social Housing Charter- Headline Findings 2023-2024

At the end of August, the Scottish Housing Regulator published an [analysis of landlords' Annual Return on the Charter](#) (ARC) for 2023/24.

The Scottish Housing Regulator has stated that they are of the view that ‘...there is systemic failure in the services provided to people who are homeless by some LAs and heightened risk of systemic failure in others.’

The general picture shows that almost 9 out of 10 tenants are satisfied with the homes and services their social landlord provides. In the 2023/24 year, social landlords allocated 44% of their homes to people assess homeless up from 41%.

Housing LIN HAPPI Hour Webinars

Housing LIN have launched the autumn/winter HAPPI Hour webinar series starting on Tuesday 10th September. Each session will feature a variety of guest speakers from across the housing, health and social care sectors, offering valuable perspectives and expertise.

This includes a webinar on the 1st of October from [Housing LIN Scotland: Showcasing innovation and good practice](#).

You can sign up on the [Housing LIN Website](#).