

# Letter from Maree Todd MSP to Health and Social Care Select Committee (HSCS) Coming Home



Letter from Maree Todd MSP.

I am the Minister for Mental Wellbeing,  
Social Care and Sport at the Scottish  
Government.



28<sup>th</sup> November 2023



**Coming Home Implementation**



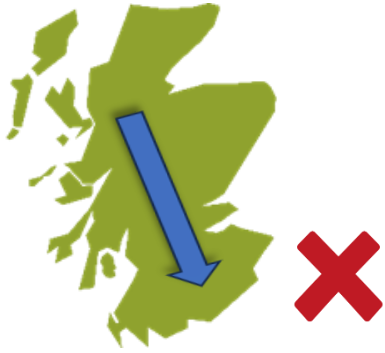
I am writing to give an important update on the Coming Home Implementation programme, led by the Scottish Government and COSLA (Convention of Scottish Local Authorities).



The Scottish Government have been working with others on the main recommendations of a report called The Coming Home Implementation Report.



The Coming Home Implementation Report was the plan to reduce delayed discharges and **inappropriate out-of-area placements** for people with learning disabilities and **complex care needs** by March 2024.



**Inappropriate out-of-area placements** is when people are moved to live somewhere a long way from their home without them or their families agreeing to it.



**Complex care needs** are where an individual has a number of care and support needs that all have to be met for the person to have a good quality of life.

Services find this a lot harder to get right.



The Scottish Government gave £20 million pounds to make the recommendations from the Coming Home Report happen.



## Dynamic Support Registers



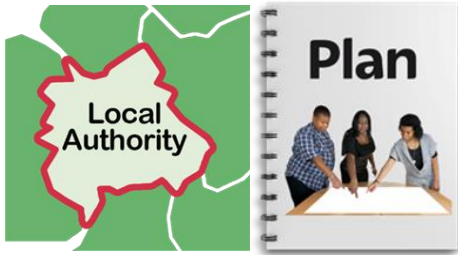
A **Dynamic Support Register** is a list of everyone with a learning disability who is in an inappropriate out-of-area placement or in hospital.



In May 2023, the Scottish Government launched the Dynamic Support Registers across Scotland.



This was one of the key recommendations of the Coming Home Implementation Report.



The Dynamic Support Register helps local areas plan better for people with learning disabilities and complex care needs to live near their home and families.



The Dynamic Support Registers will give information and **data**.



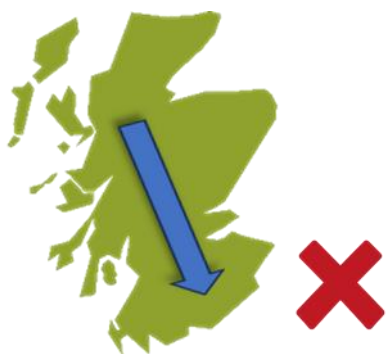
**Data** is information that can be measured or counted.



This new data will be collected across Scotland.



The data will show the people who are stuck in hospital or living in an inappropriately out-of-area placements.



People with learning disabilities living far away from their homes and families is unacceptable.



**Coming Home progress**



Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) is running the **Practitioner Peer Support Network**.



**The Practitioner Peer Support Network** will let professionals as well as people with lived experience meet and talk, to learn and share the best ways of working.



The Scottish Government are thinking how the new Learning Disabilities, Autism and Neurodivergence Bill can make the Coming Home programme even better.



## Going Further



The Scottish Government is doing more than just working on the main recommendations from the report.

The Scottish Government is working with people with lived experience and other experts to develop a new **Complex Support Needs Pathway**.



The **Complex Support Needs Pathway** will give instructions for local areas to help people with learning disabilities get home from hospital or out-of-area placements.



The Scottish Government also want there to be more support for people and families through family **peer support**.



**Peer support** is when people who have shared experiences or challenges come together to give each other emotional, practical, or social support.





The Scottish Government are looking to see what work has been done by the National Care Service for **National Commissioning**.



**National Commissioning** is when the Government arranges health and social care services for the whole of Scotland.



The Scottish Government are supporting best practice for people with learning disabilities and complex needs with Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) framework.



Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) is a **human rights-based framework**.



A **human rights-based framework** is a way of thinking about how to promote and protect human rights.



PBS aims to understand how to best support someone by understanding their needs and then focusing on making changes to the environment and to the service to meet those needs.



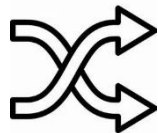
The Scottish Government is working with Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) specialists.



CAMHS look at ways to support children and young people with complex care needs, so they do not end up in hospital.



Scotland's National Autism Implementation Team (NAIT) will create a network to support professionals working with autistic people to discuss the best ways of giving support.



This can be different to the support that people with learning disabilities have.



Annual health checks for people with learning disabilities help to make sure that when someone with a learning disability and complex care needs is admitted to hospital only when they need healthcare.



We are also thinking about the definition of mental disorder and who should be included in mental health law in future.



**Beyond March 2024**



The Scottish Government have a clear plan for Scotland for ongoing and future work.



Some of this work, such as building new homes, will take more time to deliver.



This will not be done by March 2024.



The Scottish Government have listened to COSLA and local areas who have said it has been very difficult to make all the changes we want happen.



This includes the challenges around hiring of staff.



Everyone has a right to live in a home in their own community and to receive the support they need to do so.



This work is a priority for me, the Scottish Government, COSLA and local areas,



Yours Sincerely,

Maree Todd MSP



Minister for Mental Wellbeing, Social Care  
and Sport