

**Scotland Policy Conferences:
Next steps for the health and social care system in Scotland**

Timing: Afternoon, Monday, 18th May 2026

Taking Place Online



SCOTLAND POLICY
CONFERENCES

Draft agenda subject to change

- 12.30 Registration
- 13.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 13.05 **Assessing priorities for health and social care system in Scotland**
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 13.25 **Coordination and implementation of the Service Renewal Framework across national, regional and local levels**
Senior representative, local authority
- 13.35 **Progress of the Recovery Plan and NHS reform - priorities for improving operational capacity and functioning**
learning from the NHS Recovery Plan and NHS Scotland Operational Improvement Plan | addressing current operational pressures and delayed discharge | priorities for increasing capacity and improving access | implementation of the Service Renewal Framework and the Population Health Framework | proposals for a national delivery organisation and implications for governance and accountability | coordinating national and local delivery | supporting alternatives to hospital admission | addressing challenges facing primary care | impact of Hospital at Home and community provision | assessing targeting and use of funding in the Scottish Budget | strategies for improving productivity and efficiency | resourcing and coordination implications for workforce, patients and local communities
Senior representative, primary care
Senior representative, hospitals
Senior representative, communities
Senior representative, workforce
- 14.00 Questions and comments from the floor
- 14.25 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 14.30 Break
- 14.40 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 14.45 **Next steps for the National Care Service Advisory Board**
Susan Douglas-Scott, Chair, Interim National Care Service Advisory Board; and Board Chair, NHS Golden Jubilee
- 14.55 **Priorities for the social care sector - implementing the Care Reform Act 2025, increasing capacity and coordinating with communities**
delivery of Anne's Law | improved support for terminally-ill patients | enhanced rights for unpaid carers | rollout of Care Reform (Scotland) Act measures | funding and structures to support delivery | channelling funding and support for the workforce | options for addressing stakeholder concerns on funding levels and capacity | alignment with wider NHS-focused measures | improving consistency of provision | strengthening preventative and community-based services | embedding co-production with the sector and communities
Diane Fraser, Chair, Adults Social Work Standing Committee, Social Work Scotland
Senior representative, care provider
Senior representative, local authority
- 15.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 15.35 **Practical considerations for integrating the health and social care systems**
Senior representative, integrated board
- 15.45 **Priorities for renewal and practicalities for system integration**
empowerment of NHS Boards and Integration Authorities | roles of local authorities, the third sector and independent providers | coordination across the system | expectations for the role of a national delivery organisation | coordination across Integrated Joint Boards and the wider system | population-based planning and service redesign | tackling regional health inequalities | workforce and infrastructure requirements | incorporating lived experience into planning and delivery | service standards and quality across new and existing models of care | digitalisation, virtual services and innovation adoption | collaboration with industry and the life sciences sector | partnership working to support access and consistency
Senior representative, population planning
Senior representative, digital health
Senior representative, communities
Senior representative, patients
- 16.05 Questions and comments from the floor
- 16.30 **Next steps for improving the quality of health and social care services**
Dr Simon Watson, Medical Director, Healthcare Improvement Scotland
Questions and comments from the floor
- 16.55 **Chair's and Scotland Policy Conferences closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Harry Nelson, Scotland Policy Conferences