

Scotland Policy Conferences seminar:

Next steps for social care in Scotland and Care Reform Bill implementation

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 18th September 2025

Taking place online



SCOTLAND POLICY
CONFERENCES

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Strategic priorities for social care in Scotland - system pressures, reform and implementation**
Dr Donald Macaskill, Chief Executive, Scottish Care
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Delivering social care reform - national and local governance, funding sustainability, and improving the quality of care across services**
assessing structural reform and accountability measures in the Bill | priorities for funding and long-term investment | improving accessibility | addressing regional variations in care provision | enabling continuity of care and building consistency | utilising care records and developing effective information sharing between care settings | improving digital infrastructure | community outreach and responsiveness to emerging challenges | co-production with lived experience of care
Senior representative, local authority
Senior representative, care provider
Senior representative, health and social care partnership
Senior representative, service user
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Developing collaborative partnerships in social care - frameworks for improving coordination and delivery across regional systems**
Councillor Paul Kelly, Spokesperson for Health and Social Care, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA)
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.50 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.55 Break
- 11.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.10 **Supporting the social care workforce - wellbeing, pay and conditions, and achieving a skilled and sustainable sector**
Kirsty Nimmo, GMB Scotland Regional Organiser, GMB
- 11.20 **The future for professional leadership in social work in Scotland**
Senior representative, social work
- 11.30 **Priorities for workforce development, system coordination, and meeting projected care needs**
defining fair work standards and monitoring progress | implementing publication of national social care need assessments | continuity of care, and Anne's Law, personalised care plans | strategies for managing ageing demographic pressures on care services | workforce planning, retention, and the future for domestic and international recruitment | delivering support for unpaid carers | signposting services to vulnerable populations | young people's care | evaluating and monitoring care services | co-ordination with the voluntary and third sectors
Senior representative, care provider
Senior representative, third sector
Senior representative, health and social care partnership
Senior representative, unpaid carers
Senior academic
- 12.00 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Next steps for social care in Scotland and implementation of the Care Reform Bill**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Scotland Policy Conferences closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Scotland Policy Conferences