

**Scotland Policy Conferences keynote seminar:  
Next steps for tackling NHS waiting times in Scotland**

Timing: Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024

\*\*\*Taking place online\*\*\*



SCOTLAND POLICY  
CONFERENCES

*Draft agenda subject to change*

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Assessing the current state of the NHS in Scotland and key considerations for policy going forward**  
Senior commentator
- 9.20 **Priorities for tackling NHS waiting times in Scotland**  
*identifying effective measures to meet waiting time targets | options for improving outpatient and inpatient care timelines | addressing delays in rollout of National Treatment Centres (NTCs) and strategies for expediting completion of NTCs | improving hospital productivity levels | addressing health inequalities caused by waiting times | strategies for fair distribution of healthcare resources*  
**Sara Redmond**, Chief Officer, Development, Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland  
**Mark Dayan**, Policy Analyst and Head of Public Affairs, Nuffield Trust  
**Dr Robert Van Der Meer**, Management Science, University of Strathclyde  
Senior representative, health board  
Senior representative, patient group
- 9.55 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.15 **Next steps for the healthcare workforce**  
*strategies for improving staff retention | addressing workforce shortages and improving morale | assessing the impact of contract reforms and pay rises | assessing potential reforms for improving transparency in NHS governance and accountability*  
**Matt McLaughlin**, Regional Organiser, Head of Health, UNISON Scotland  
Senior representative, health board  
Senior representative, legal  
Senior representative, clinicians  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.05 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.10 Break
- 11.20 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Dr Sandesh Gulhane MSP**, Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care, Scottish Conservative Party
- 11.25 **Priorities for long-term improvement of health services in Scotland**  
Senior representative, innovation
- 11.40 **Strategic priorities for improvement, innovation, and collaboration**  
*what new technologies can best support improvement in healthcare and care management | strategies for early intervention and prevention | pathways to enhance partnerships between key stakeholders | opportunities in digital health | steps for moving care closer to home*  
**Professor George Crooks**, CEO, Digital Health and Care Innovation Centre  
Senior representative, community care  
Senior representative, prevention  
Senior representative, innovation  
Senior representative, legal  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **The future of healthcare policy and implementing strategies for recovery**  
**Caroline Lamb**, CEO, NHS Scotland; and Director General, Health and Social Care, The Scottish Government  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Scotland Policy Conferences closing remarks**  
**Dr Sandesh Gulhane MSP**, Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care, Scottish Conservative Party  
**Sean Cudmore**, Scotland Policy Conferences