Health and Care (Staffing) (Scotland) Bill

Dear Elaine,

The Committee commenced formal consideration of the Health and Care (Staffing) (Scotland) Bill on 11 September.

Prior to the formal evidence the Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) provided us with data identifying the number of wards/teams/departments who have applied each of the workload tools during the financial years 2016/17 and 2017/18 by NHS board. You can view the data tables in the CNO’s letter.

We note from the data NHS Highland did not run the tools in the following areas between 2016-2018:

- Neonatal

We also note that in the following areas the tools were run but at a reducing frequency:

- Adult inpatient
- Small wards
- Mental health and learning disabilities
- Professional judgement non-community
- Community nursing

We also note the following areas ran tools in 2016/17 but not in 2017/18:

- Community children’s specialist nurse
- SCAMPS (paediatric)

To help our scrutiny of the Bill we would welcome details of why workload tools were not run in certain departments and why others were run at a reducing frequency.
The Committee would welcome your response to this letter by 24 September.

Yours sincerely

Lewis Macdonald
Convener
Health and Sport Committee