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Thank you for your letter of 23 November 2020, on behalf of the Committee, requesting further information about the review of co-ordinated support plans. I am pleased to be able to update you on this work.

As you have indicated in your letter, I committed to review the use of co-ordinated support plans (CSPs) to ensure that children and young people with the most significant additional support needs are receiving the support that they need to reach their full learning potential.

I indicated previously that work to progress the review of CSPs would be undertaken within the wider context of Angela Morgan's review [of implementation of additional support for learning](#) and that the findings from that review would be used to inform the review of the use of CSPs.

As we set out in our [joint response](#) to the additional support for learning review, the Scottish Government and COSLA will establish a short-life working group to progress the CSP review. The CSP short-life working group will be comprised of representatives from across education, health and social work and will include representatives of children and young people, parents and carers, teachers and other staff who are involved in planning the support that children and young people need. The group will meet for the first time early in the new year.

The recommendation on the CSP review which Angela Moran made in her report, provides a solid framework for the group to take forward this work. Specifically, the recommendation asks that evidence heard by the wider review is used to inform this work, in addition to consideration of:

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- planning mechanisms within a whole life perspective for children and young people with lifelong conditions including transitions between and beyond education settings.
- clarifying the interaction between CSPs and child's plan and GIRFEC
- the relationship between education and partners in health, social work and other agencies to identify where re-alignment is needed in the preparation and delivery of support.
- where improvements are needed in the availability and accessibility of information and guidance about planning and its processes for all parents and carers and children and young people.

The short-life working group will report its overall findings and conclusions to the Additional Support for Learning Implementation Group (ASLIG) to allow that group to oversee progress against the wider action plan and report to Ministers and COSLA by October 2021. In addition, the working group will provide regular updates as this work progresses. I would be happy to keep the committee updated as the review progresses.

I hope this information is helpful to the Committee.

Yours Sincerely

JOHN SWINNEY

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