



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Maureen Watt  
Minister for Mental Health  
The Scottish Government

Health and Sport Committee  
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## **Mental Health Inquiry**

Dear Maureen

The Health and Sport Committee in agreeing their work programme for the coming period determined to undertake a series of short focused inquiries with a view to developing an early understanding across the remit.

In relation to mental health the Committee is aware of the committee inquiry which reported in 2009 and understands work is ongoing to produce a new strategy. They agreed to follow up on the work of the predecessor committee and to focus in particular on CAMHS. To assist with this particular inquiry I would appreciate if you would provide an update on progress since the 2009 report with particular reference to the following aspects:

1. The extent to which The Mental Health of Children and Young People's Framework was implemented by its target date of 2015.
2. The current number of consultant psychiatrists currently working in CAMHS in Scotland. [While ISD statistics show the numbers working in psychology have risen to the level anticipated in your letter to the committee of 3 August 2009 (253.2WTE @ March 2016) no breakdown of consultant posts is provided.]
3. The current number of clinical psychologists involved in research activities. (Paragraph 44 of the report)
4. A breakdown of CAMHS staff per 100,000 of population in each Health Board area. (Paragraph 51 report)
5. The current number and location of specialist in-patient beds now available across Scotland together with information on any current

delays that exist in accessing places from the time of need being assessed. (Ministers letter 31 August 2009)

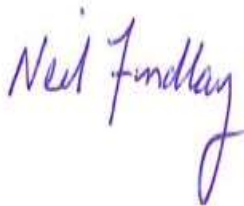
6. Statistics on current measurements of Hall 4 contacts and assessments across Health Boards. (Ministers letter 31 August 2009)
7. Progress on the alignment of community health nursing teams as discussed in paragraph 124 of the report.

In relation to adult mental health and with reference to the proposed new mental health strategy the Committee would welcome information on how the overall success of the previous strategy was evaluated together with detail on the areas which were assessed as being the most and least successful. It would be helpful if you could also confirm the proposed date of publication for the new strategy.

Finally we note the Government directly funds third sector activities in health and social care and are interested in the extent to which funding from the government flows into mental health outreach work. In addition please advise what the Government has specified as the strategic direction to underpin mental health outreach work and how such work is currently being evaluated and financed?

It would be greatly appreciated if the above information could be supplied by 31 August.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Neil Findlay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter 'y'.

Neil Findlay MSP  
Convener of the Health and Sport Committee