

Lewis Macdonald MSP
Convener
Health and Sport Committee
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

30 September 2020

Dear Lewis

CONSULTATION PAPER: FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR EARLY MEDICAL ABORTION AT HOME

I am writing to let you know that we are launching a consultation on the future arrangements for early medical abortion at home today, 30 September. I want to draw this to the Committee's attention to this as I know a number of MSPs have an interest in this.

We are particularly seeking views from people with direct experience of early medical abortions, including women or groups representing women who have had abortions, abortion service providers and professional bodies.

The responses will help to inform the Scottish Government's decisions on whether the current arrangements, which allow some women to take mifepristone at home following a telemedicine appointment, should be allowed to continue once there is no longer a significant risk of COVID-19 transmission.

The consultation paper can be accessed and responded to on the Scottish Government's website at <https://consult.gov.scot/population-health/early-medical-abortion-at-home/>. The consultation will run until 5 January 2021.

I will keep the Committee updated on the Scottish Government's plans once the consultation has closed and the responses have been analysed.

JOE FITZPATRICK

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

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