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Diane Barr
Cross-Committee on Tackling Drug Deaths and
Drugs harms
The Scottish Parliament

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Thank you for confirming the invitation to provide evidence to the Cross Committee on 26 September in your email of 6 July 2023.

To prepare for the session you asked for confirmation on the publication of a six-monthly report referred to by the Minister for Drugs Policy in the Scottish Government debate on 12 January 2023

I can confirm that the six-monthly report to Parliament due in June 2023 did indeed go ahead on schedule. The report was given in a parliamentary statement on the implementation of medication assisted Treatment standards on 20 June 2023.

The statement accompanied publication by Public Health Scotland of its benchmarking report on progress toward implementation of the standards: [National benchmarking report on implementation of the medication assisted treatment \(MAT\) standards: 2022/2023 - National benchmarking report on implementation of the medication assisted treatment \(MAT\) standards - Publications - Public Health Scotland](#)

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I hope this confirmation is helpful and I very much look forward to providing evidence in September and working with the Committee to help ensure that everything possible is being done to tackle drug deaths and drug harms.



ELENA WHITHAM MSP
Minister for Drugs and Alcohol Policy

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