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Follow-up: Health and wellbeing of children and young people

Thank you for your letter of 3 February requesting further clarification on some of the points raised during the Committee's inquiry into the Health and Wellbeing of Children and Young People.

The Committee asked when the full Child's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) of the Mental Health Transition and Recovery Plan will be published. We will be publishing a full CRWIA in April 2022. This will cover all of the actions within the Mental Health Transition and Recovery Plan which will have an impact on children.

The list of published CRWIAs (from December 2015 onwards) can be found on the Scottish Government website at the following link: [Child rights and wellbeing impact assessments: list - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/child-rights-and-wellbeing-impact-assessments/list-2015-to-2021/pages/11.aspx).

The Committee requested further information on two current prevention focused pilots which encourage physical activity amongst children and young people. The first was the commitment to encourage active travel by providing free bikes to all children of school age who cannot afford them. We launched 6 pilots on 17 August 2021, followed by a further 4 in the latter half of 2021. We have committed £2.5m to support these pilot programmes which will run for 12 months and will benefit up to 3000 children. The pilots are testing delivery models to inform the design of a national rollout. The programme's output will be fully evaluated in August 2022.

The second prevention focussed programme the Committee requested an update on was the programme to improve access to sport for disabled people. Sportscotland, our

National Agency for Sport, funds Scottish Disability Sport (SDS). SDS is the coordinating body for all sports for people of all ages and abilities with a physical, sensory and learning disability. SDS has recently published a new strategic plan for 2021-2029.

Sportscotland's support to SDS to deliver this plan includes annual investment, with funding of £572,500 agreed for 2021-22. This investment allows SDS to identify, enable and sustain participation, support athletes to achieve their potential, and influence an inclusive culture through coaching learning and development.

In 2019-20 SDS local branches delivered 466 sessions and 245 events, while over 2,000 people engaged in SDS national events calendar across 8 sports. SDS is constantly seeking to widen the range of available sports options for individuals of all levels of ability with a disability in Scotland. SDS has the responsibility of creating appropriate sport specific pathways for individual sports people.

Finally, the Committee asked for the most up-to-date figures on patients accessing CAMHS which are:

- 78.6% of CAMHS patients started treatment within 18 weeks of referral in the quarter ending September 2021 - an improvement from 72.6% in the previous quarter, and an improvement from 60.6% in same quarter in 2020.
- 3,792 started treatment during this quarter, a 16.7% decrease from the previous quarter (4,552) and a 6.0% decrease from the same quarter in 2020 (4,032).
- Nationally, 7,882 referrals were received, a 22.7% decrease from the previous quarter (10,193) and a 5.7% increase from the same quarter in 2020 (7,455).
- 73% of referrals to CAMHS were accepted during the quarter ending September 2021, a decrease from 77.8% in the previous quarter. The National CAMHS Specification requires that those children and young people who do not meet the National CAMHS criteria should be sensitively and appropriately signposted to a more suitable service within their community.
- The median wait for a first treatment appointment during the quarter ending September 2021 was 7 weeks, compared to 7 weeks in the previous quarter.

We hope this information is helpful to the Committee.

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