



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Public Audit Committee

Caroline Lamb
Director-General Health and Social Care / Chief Executive NHS Scotland
Scottish Government

4 July 2025

Dear Ms Lamb

General practice: Progress since the 2018 General Medical Services contract

Thank you for providing evidence to the Public Audit Committee on the Auditor General for Scotland's (AGS) report on [General practice: Progress since the 2018 General Medical Services contract](#) at its [meeting on 18 June 2025](#).

Following the meeting, the Committee agreed to write to you to seek a response to the following points.

100,000 additional general practitioner appointments

The AGS's report refers to the Scottish Government's announcement in November 2024 that £10.5 million had been set aside in its 2025/26 budget to develop a targeted service within general practice for early intervention and prevention in areas such as frailty and cardiovascular disease. At the Committee's [meeting on 14 May 2025](#) it heard from Audit Scotland that the Scottish Government had since confirmed that the £10.5 million is intended to provide the 100,000 extra general practitioner appointments announced by the First Minister as part of the Scottish Government's programme for government for 2025/26.

Can you please provide information on how the 100,000 additional general practitioner appointments will be funded in future years.

Digital priorities

During the evidence session on 18 June 2025, the Committee asked about the progress that is being made towards the roll out of an NHS Scotland App. We heard from you that the first stage of development of the App will allow hospital appointments to be booked and rescheduled and that it will be piloted in NHS Lanarkshire in December and rolled out across Scotland during 2025 and 2026.

Contact: Public Audit Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP.
Email publicaudit.committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

Can you please provide further information on the planned future investment that will support the increased functionality of the App.

Can you also provide details of the expected functionality of the App and the timescales for each phase of its roll out.

Health and Social Care Service Renewal Framework 2025-2035

During the evidence session on 18 June 2025, the Committee also heard from you on the Scottish Government's recent publication of its [Health and Social Care Service Renewal Framework 2025-2035](#). The Committee welcomes its focus on preventions and notes your statement that—

“What we need to do now, and what we are doing now, as indicated through the service renewal framework, is to say what the next steps are that we need to take to make sure that we deliver general practice as part of a wider primary care environment that is sustainable and fit for the future.”

Can you please provide further information on the actions, timescales and costs relating to the implementation of the Service Renewal Framework.

During the evidence session, the Scottish Government also undertook to provide the Committee with further information relating to the phased investment programme (column 49).

The Committee would be grateful for a response by **Friday 22 August 2025**.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Leonard MSP

Convener