

FOI reference number: 202300380848

- Minutes from meeting

Minutes from the meeting between Humza Yousaf, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care and Fiona Duncan, Chair of The Promise Scotland

**Meeting between Mr Yousaf and Fiona Duncan
Monday 1 November
10:00 – 11:00
On Teams**

Attendees:

Humza Yousaf, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

Fiona Duncan, Chair of The Promise Scotland

[redacted], Head of Support, The Promise Scotland

Michael Chalmers, Director for Children and Families

Gavin Henderson, Deputy Director - Keeping The Promise

[redacted], Policy and Engagement Lead - Keeping The Promise

The Cabinet Secretary thanked Fiona Duncan and [redacted] for taking the time to meet with him to discuss the links between his portfolio area and The Promise.

National Care Service

There was a discussion about the National Care Service (NCS) consultation, key points were:

- Fiona Duncan set out The Promise Scotland's approach to responding to the NCS consultation by explaining the approach is based on evidence and the guiding principles being 'Will the creation of a NCS with the inclusion of children's services more or less likely Keep The Promise?'
- The Promise Scotland's conclusion was that there is insufficient evidence for the creation of a National Care Service with risks and opportunities for the NCS including or not including children's services.
- The Cabinet Secretary confirmed that the Scottish Government would be publishing the responses to the NCS consultation.
- The Cabinet Secretary agreed to engage with The Promise Scotland on an ongoing basis about the creation of a NCS.

The Promise and links with Health

There was a discussion about the links between The Promise and the wider Health and Social care portfolio in particular:

- how some of the basic mental, physical and social health needs of care experienced children and young people weren't being met.
- £500m Whole Family Wellbeing Fund and the importance of Health being involved in the design, delivery and evaluation of The Fund.
- The Cabinet Secretary committed to look at the Health budget in relation to funding and policies are targeted at those who need them most in the context of care experienced children and young people's basic health needs being met.

Mental health

There was a discussion about mental health services and the experience that care experienced children and young people have had when interacting with those services. Key points were:

- The current experience of care experience children and young people have with mental health services, in particular Children and Young People's Mental Health Services (CYPMHS).
- The Cabinet Secretary agreed to meet with officials and Mr Stewart, Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care to understand the disconnect between CYPMHS and care experienced children and young people being able to access these services.
- The potential for a bespoke mental health service for care experience children and young people
- The Cabinet Secretary agreed for Mr Stewart to have a meeting with Fiona Duncan to discuss what a bespoke mental health service could look like for care experience children and young people.
- The Promise Design School working with care experienced children and young people, and families to look at what a good intensive mental health service could look like and sharing this with the Scottish Government

Next steps

The Cabinet Secretary acknowledged the importance of continuing his dialogue with Fiona and agreed to meet with Fiona in early 2022. Fiona Duncan agreed to send the Cabinet Secretary a list of actions from The Promise which require collective action from the Scottish Government to deliver them. The Cabinet Secretary welcomed this and suggested that the Public Services and Economy Ministerial Working Group would be the place to discuss and agree a way forward for collectively delivering these actions.

The Cabinet Secretary thanked Fiona Duncan and [redacted] for the meeting.

Meeting ends.

List of agreed actions

- The Scottish Government will publish the responses to the NCS consultation
- The Scottish Government will continue to engage with The Promise Scotland on decisions around the creation a NCS
- The Cabinet Secretary agreed to meet with The Promise Scotland in early 2022
- The Cabinet Secretary committed to look at the Health budget in relation to funding and policies are targeted at those who need them most in the context of care experience children and young people's basic health needs being met.
- The Cabinet Secretary agreed to meet with officials and Mr Stewart, Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care to understand the disconnect between CYPMHS and care experienced children and young people being able to access these services.

- The Cabinet Secretary agreed for Mr Stewart to have a meeting with Fiona Duncan to discuss what a bespoke mental health service could look like for care experience children and young people.
- Fiona Duncan agreed to send the Cabinet Secretary a list of actions from The Promise which require collective action from the Scottish Government to deliver them. The Public Services and Economy Ministerial Working Group will be the forum for discussing and agreeing a way forward for delivering these actions.

