



Our voices ■ Our choices

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12 August 2022

Kevin Stewart
Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care

Christina McKelvie
Minister for Equalities and Older People

The Scottish Government

(by email)

Dear Ministers,

**Submission in response to the Coming Home Implementation Report
2022**

In February of this year the Scottish Government published the Coming Home Implementation Report detailing the proposed response to the critical issue of learning disabled and autistic people spending long periods of time in hospitals and inappropriate out of area placements.

Whilst we appreciate the Governments focus on this issue and the intention to address it, we are gravely concerned about the process for compiling the report, and the proposals outlined within it.

We adopted the position of a critical friend and have, through a collaborative process of deliberation and consultation, compiled the attached submission outlining our concerns.

In 2022 it is not enough to write the words 'nothing about us without us' and publish a report that did not engage with disabled people. It is not good enough to cite human rights based approaches and fail to ensure the participation of the very people the report is about.

The report references the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, specifically Article 19 the Right to Independent Living, and details case studies that would not comply with the convention.

The report makes no mention of Self Directed Support, the key driver for ensuring choice and control for those requiring social care support in order to live a good life.


We believe the Scottish Government can and should do better. A critical first step would be ensuring real and meaningful engagement of disabled people and their families in any proposals to resolve these, and the other concerns, detailed.

We hope you receive this submission in the spirit in which it is intended. The signatories would be happy to engage in any process to improve the report and/or opportunities for learning disabled and autistic people, living in hospitals and out of area placements, to live dignified lives.

Yours sincerely,



Leo Starrs-Cunningham
Chair of Inclusion Scotland



Professor Ian Welsh
Chair of C-Change Scotland