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The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
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8 March 2022

Dear Conveners,

Today, Audit Scotland published a report on Drug and Alcohol services in Scotland which highlighted the progress that has been made by the Scottish Government since 2019, and outlined key areas that should be prioritised going forward.

I was pleased to read that Audit Scotland has recognised our increased level of funding and resource commitment throughout the first year of an ambitious National Mission to tackle Scotland's drug crisis.

However, I am also keenly aware of the key areas for improvement raised in this report around spending transparency and the need for an integrated approach to address the root causes of problem drug and alcohol use.

I hope this information is helpful to Committee members and would be happy to expand on the Scottish Government's response to this publication through attendance at committee, if necessary.

Yours sincerely,

ANGELA CONSTANCE MSP
Minister for Drugs Policy