

Gillian Martin  
Convener of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

Enquiries to: Emma McNair  
Email: [emma.mcnair@phs.scot](mailto:emma.mcnair@phs.scot)

7 December 2022

Dear Ms Martin,

**First Annual Report on the operation of the Forensic Medical Services (Victims of Sexual Offences) (Scotland) Act 2021 (the FMS Act)**

The FMS Act places a statutory duty on Public Health Scotland (PHS) to produce an annual report on the operation of the Act within two months of the end of the reporting period. The reporting period starts from the date the Act commenced (1 April 2022), which means that the first annual report (covering the period to 31 March 2023), should be published no later than 31 May 2023.

The data required to populate the PHS report will be drawn from a new national clinical IT system called Cellma, which has been developed by an external supplier overseen by NHS National Services Scotland. The system was launched on 1 April 2022 and detailed quality assurance and testing work is on-going, to ensure robust and reliable reporting. This process is taking longer than anticipated due to the complexities of building and deploying the system and bedding it in across all 14 territorial health boards.

As a result, the data that PHS expected from the Cellma system will not be available within the time required for PHS to produce the first annual report by May 2023 and it is likely that data for the first year will not be complete. PHS is committed to the provision of an accurate and meaningful report as soon as possible and will handle and report all data appropriately, mindful of the very sensitive subject matter and the responsibilities of a producer of official statistics.

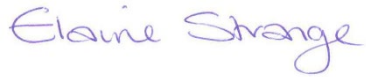
PHS will write again to the Committee by the end of March 2023 to provide an update on progress and to advise when the report for the first year will be available.

In parallel, the Scottish Government continues to monitor health board performance against key Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) Quality Indicators, so that any

necessary improvement action can be identified and acted upon timeously. These indicators align with the national HIS Standards for healthcare and forensic medical services for people who have experienced rape, sexual assault or child sexual abuse.

We hope you find this update helpful.

Yours sincerely,



**Elaine Strange**

**Head of Service, Data and Digital Innovation, Public Health Scotland**