

Convenor
Social Justice and Social Security Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP
By email to: sjss.committee@parliament.scot

4 March 2024

Dear Ms Stevenson

Independent Review of Adult Disability Payment

I am writing to introduce myself as the appointed Chair for the Independent Review of Adult Disability Payment (ADP).

I have worked with disabled people for over 15 years; most recently as CEO at Mencap, one of the UK's largest disability charities and before that as CEO Cornerstone Community Care, based in Scotland. I have a son with a learning disability and have first-hand experience of what daily life can be like if you are a disabled person.

The Review started in February 2024, and we plan to have a final report available for the Scottish Government in July 2025. As you will know, the purpose of the Review is to provide advice to the Scottish Government on the current rules and people's experience of delivery in the first year of Adult Disability Payment and make recommendations for improvement.

I am more than happy to meet with Committee members on an informal basis to discuss the Review. If this is something Committee members are interested in pursuing, please contact ADPReview@gov.scot and we will arrange a mutually convenient time. The meeting can be held virtually or in-person, whichever suits Committee members best. Our website, which will be updated on an ongoing basis, can be accessed here: <https://www.gov.scot/groups/adult-disability-payment-independent-review/>.

If you would like to contact me to discuss any aspects of the Review, please send me an email at ADPReview@gov.scot and I will get back to you as soon as I can. You can also contact David George, Head of Secretariat for the Review.

Yours sincerely

Edel Harris

Edel Harris OBE