



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Gerald McLaughlin  
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Health and Sport Committee

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Dear Gerry,

Thank you for your attendance at our meeting on 16 May and for the information you supplied. A considerable amount of public money is invested in special NHS boards and one of our tasks is to seek to hold to account public bodies falling within our remit.

On behalf of the Committee I would be grateful if you could supply us with some additional information in relation to the impact of your organisation. .

We recognise the difficulties you described in ascribing impacts directly to your work both immediate and in the longer term. Nevertheless, we feel it would be beneficial if the value of your work is identified. .

We have noted the following specific functions of NHS Health Scotland as set out in the Annual Report and Accounts for Year Ended 31 March 2016 and would be grateful if for each of the points below you would provide evidence of the successes in the last 12 months. We are especially interested in how your work has influenced and informed policy making and practice:

- Providing specialist advice to support the Scottish Government in relation to public health improvement and health inequalities policy making.
- Disseminating and explaining relevant public health improvement and health inequalities evidence, learning and good practice, to professional and public audiences.
- Providing support marketing linked to local health improvement services and facilitating the integration of local marketing approaches with the national strategy, where appropriate.
- Evaluating agreed aspects of Scotland's public health improvement and health inequalities national programmes.
- Reviewing published research and commissioning new research on innovations, insights and evidence on public health improvement and health inequalities.

I look forward to your response which it would be helpful to receive by 21 June.

Kind regards,

Neil Findlay MSP  
Convener