



Dear Colleague

APPOINTMENT OF FIRST PATIENT SAFETY COMMISSIONER FOR SCOTLAND

Summary

1. Following on from circular [DL \(2024\) 10](#), this Director's Letter advises Chief Executives that in line with the [Patient Safety Commissioner for Scotland Act 2023](#) ("the 2023 Act"), which came into force on 1 May 2024, Karen Titchener has been appointed the first Patient Safety Commissioner for Scotland following an open recruitment process. Ms Titchener is expected to take up her post on 1 September 2025. This is a full-time fixed term appointment for eight years.

Background

2. The 2023 Act established an independent Parliamentary Commissioner whose role is to:
- advocate for systematic improvement in the safety of health care in Scotland; and
 - promote the importance of the views of patients and other members of the public in relation to the safety of health care.

Action

3. I would be grateful if you could cascade this information as appropriate within your organisation.

DL (2025) 19

5 August 2025

Addresses

For action
Chief Executives

For information
Chairs of Boards

Enquiries to:
E-mail: psc@gov.scot

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. McLaughlin', written in a cursive style.

Christine McLaughlin

Chief Operating Officer & Deputy Chief Executive, NHS
Scotland

Scottish Government Directorate for the Chief Operating
Officer, NHS Scotland