



To: Chief Executives NHS Scotland  
Chair's NHS Scotland  
Workforce Senior Leadership Group  
HR Directors  
National Staffside Representatives  
Medical Directors  
Nursing Directors  
Employee Directors  
Chief Officers (NHS Boards and Local Authority)  
Local Authority Chief Executives  
Chief Social Work Officers  
Chief Officers H&SCP  
Care Inspectorate H&SCP  
Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC)  
Scottish Care  
Coalition of Care and Support  
Funded Health and Social Care Partners  
Directors of Public Health

21 August

Dear Colleagues

## **UK IPC guidance for the remobilisation of health and care services**

Further to my letter of 14 August, I can confirm that UK wide IPC Guidance issued jointly by the Department of Health and Social Care, Health Protection Scotland (HPS), Public Health Scotland (PHS), Public Health Wales, Public Health Agency Northern Ireland, Public Health England (PHE) and NHS England as official guidance has been published today on the PHE website. The guidance can be found [here](#).

We recognise that Boards will require some additional time to implement the COVID-19 risk pathways and ask that you work towards this, with support from National Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infection (ARHAI) Scotland (NSS) over the coming fortnight, with a view to going "live" week commencing 7 September. Please note that the pathways detailed in the guidance are examples, based on the current policy in other areas of the UK. We therefore ask you to consider, with support from National ARHAI Scotland (NSS), how to implement the pathways in a way which is workable and effective within your local context as part of your own remobilisation plans.

Existing non-acute guidance in Scotland will be updated over the coming week to ensure that it aligns with the new UK remobilisation guidance. We expect the social care sector to start implementing the UK remobilisation guidance over the coming fortnight once the corresponding non-acute guidance in Scotland has been updated.



I would be grateful if this guidance could be highlighted to your frontline staff.

*Fiona C McQueen*

**FIONA MCQUEEN**  
Chief Nursing Officer

