



**From the Chair of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in Scotland and the President Elect of the Royal College of Psychiatrists**

Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport  
Scottish Government  
St Andrew's House  
Regent Road  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

**27 April 2023**

Dear Maree Todd MSP

On behalf of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, we would like to congratulate you on your recent appointment as the new Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport.

As you will be aware, the College in Scotland has worked closely with the Mental Health Directorate at the Scottish Government for some time. We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss how we can continue to work together on shared priorities to:

- Strengthen Scotland's mental health services, to allow them to meet the growing demand that they face.
- Support Scotland's mental health workforce, to enable them to continue to fulfil their vital roles.
- And bring about parity of esteem between mental and physical health in Scotland, by working towards the Scottish Government's commitment to invest 10% of our frontline NHS budget in mental health.

We believe there is a real opportunity to bring about the change that Scotland needs through the new Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Scotland, Scotland's first dedicated workforce plan for mental health, and the development of Quality Standards for Adult Secondary Mental Health Services. We look forward to continuing to work together on these and other initiatives to improve the mental health of the people of Scotland.

Could you please let us know of your availability to meet with representatives of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in Scotland? We hope to hear from your office soon.

With our very best wishes,

Yours sincerely

**Dr Linda Findlay**

Chair of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in Scotland

**Dr Lade Smith**

President Elect of the Royal College of Psychiatrists