

FINANCE COMMITTEE CALL FOR EVIDENCE

VICTIMS AND WITNESSES (SCOTLAND) BILL: FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

SUBMISSION FROM NHS AYRSHIRE AND ARRAN

Did you take part in either of the Scottish Government consultation exercises which preceded the Bill and, if so, did you comment on the financial assumptions made?

1. No

Do you believe your comments on the financial assumptions have been accurately reflected in the Financial Memorandum?

2. N/A

Did you have sufficient time to contribute to the consultation exercise?

3. Yes

Costs

If the Bill has any financial implications for your organisation, do you believe that these have been accurately reflected in the Financial Memorandum? If not, please provide details?

4. The proposed formation of the National Confidential Forum in respect of children abused while in residential care could, contrary to what is stated in the papers to the Finance Committee, could have implications on NHS Boards in respect of the reactivation of traumatic memories and associated psychological problems/distress that this could cause. There is a chance that this may impact on Boards, though clearly the impact would depend on the numbers of people coming forward and the arrangements in place for the NCF to ameliorate and/or address these issues as part of their process.

Do you consider that the estimated costs and savings set out in the Financial Memorandum and projected over 15 years for each service are reasonable and accurate?

5. The potential costs for NHS Boards are not factored in to these assumptions, however as this would be difficult to quantify it would seem reasonable for Boards to respond to this as part of their broader health care pressures.

If relevant, are you content that your organisation can meet the financial costs associated with the Bill which your organisation will incur? If not, how do you think these costs should be met?

6. Boards will need to keep a watching brief on the impact, but it would be reasonable to assume that this could be managed within existing health care resources.

Does the Financial Memorandum accurately reflect the margins of uncertainty associated with the estimates and the timescales over which such costs would be expected to arise?

7. No comment.

Wider Issues

Do you believe that the Financial Memorandum reasonably captures costs associated with the Bill? If not, which other costs might be incurred and by whom?

8. No comment.

Do you believe that there may be future costs associated with the Bill, for example through subordinate legislation? If so, is it possible to quantify these costs?

9. No comment.