

**Minister for Children and Early Years**

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Chief Executives,  
Directors of Services,  
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Scottish Care at Home,  
Scottish Care,  
Community Care Providers Scotland,  
Scottish Commission for the Regulation of Care



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Your ref:

Our ref:

25 June 2009

Dear Colleagues

**REGISTRATION OF MANAGERS OF CARE AT HOME SERVICES WITH SCOTTISH SOCIAL SERVICES COUNCIL**

I am writing to advise you of the decision to include managers of care at home services in the scope of registration with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) and the impact on commencement of registration of housing support staff.

Some of you may already be aware of the decision, following the announcement made at the recent Scottish Care at Home Annual Conference by my colleague Shona Robson, Minister for Public Health and Sport.

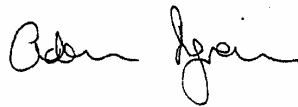
The addition of this group of staff was made following representation from both the SSSC and the sector. The decision to include managers of care at home services was made in recognition of the increasing trend for care at home services to be jointly registered to provide housing support services; reflecting the changing dynamics of social care, the critical role of managers of these services in dealing with risk to services users, co-ordinating work, quality assurance and providing support and guidance to already staff, and that staff in housing support services are already within the scope of registration.

Following this decision the SSSC will now consult with the sector on issues such as qualification and fee levels.

Given the number of combined housing support and care at home services and the interchange ability of the staff, the commencement of registration for staff in housing support services will be delayed from Autumn 2009 until December 2010 to ensure concurrent registration of managers in both services.

I realise that the decision to delay the commencement of registration may disappoint some providers of housing support services. I recognise and support the work you are doing in up skilling your workforce to meet registration requirements, and I'm sure that will continue. However, as I have previously stated, with the number of combined services it is logical that managers of both services are registered concurrently.

Scottish Ministers are committed to improving the standard of practice and delivery of social services. Registration and regulation of the workforce will ensure that workers are properly trained and qualified for the work they undertake, thereby improve public confidence, protect users of social services and deliver a confident, competent and valued workforce.



**Adam Ingram**