

PE1493/L

PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE

PE1493: A Sunshine Act for Scotland

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on public petition PE1493: A Sunshine Act for Scotland, the proposal to create a searchable record of all payments to NHS Health care workers from industry and commerce.

What is proposed in this petition builds on what we have in place in NHS Tayside and what we are working towards which includes the following:

- NHS Tayside's Code of Corporate Governance. This includes our Members Code of Conduct and Standards of Business Conduct for NHS Staff which details our standards for the registration of interests, gifts and hospitality. The Code also contains Sponsorship Standards which provide our framework for decision making regarding commercial sponsorship and which all staff must adhere to. This document is available publicly on our internet site.
[NHS Tayside Code of Corporate Governance](#)
- Tayside NHS Board's register of interests which is also available publicly on our internet site.
[Tayside NHS Board register of interests](#)
- A register of all commercial sponsorship received by NHS Tayside is currently being developed, and once this is available the intention is that this will be made publicly available on the NHS Tayside internet site.
- A register of other NHS Tayside staff's interests, and a register of gifts and hospitality for Tayside NHS Board members and staff are maintained but not currently publicly available. NHS Tayside is currently considering making these publicly available on our internet site.

In NHS Tayside we are concerned to ensure that we are open and transparent in all our governance processes and arrangements, and the proposals in this petition will increase transparency and therefore should help maintain public confidence and trust in our health services.

Margaret E Dunning
Board Secretary
January 2014