

Follow-up letter from Dr Jim McGeorge, 13 August 2025

I refer to my attendance at the meeting of the Education, Children & Young People Committee on 25 June 2025.

At that meeting I undertook to provide supplementary information on a matter raised by Maggie Chapman MSP in relation to the use of EAB Global strategic consultancy without competitive tender.

The award process for this contract was taken forward by one of the directorates I managed. I understood that I was authorising the contract as a direct award (or Non-Competitive Action, NCA) on the basis that EAB were the only supplier of the services concerned and that the requirements to justify the use of an NCA in this case had been met. I did not at the time appreciate that the Procurement Team had determined that there was insufficient evidence provided by the directorate for the use of an NCA and therefore that I had made an error in authorising the award at that time. I am, of course, deeply sorry that this was the case.

Your sincerely

Jim McGeorge

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