Dear Mr Burns

Thank you for your letter of 10 January in response to the letter from our clerk dated 10 December. The Committee considered the exchange and have asked me to respond on their behalf.

The Committee have noted the detail provided in your letter and are grateful for the elaboration provided, which is most helpful. In particular the Committee recognise and appreciate the added specification of activity and of outcomes you provide. They have also noted the various pieces of ongoing work you refer to and the anticipation of progress and improvement in the areas you set out. In each case the Committee would welcome, shortly after each timescale elapses, a further response confirming progress and setting out what the work has achieved.

You provided interesting detail about your Improvement and Learning from others triangle and detailed one objective relating to quality. Could you indicate how that objective is measured along with detail of how these are reported, and to whom?

The Committee were pleased to learn about your outcome focus and noted the ongoing work through the transformational change programme. Could you give an indication of when you anticipate this work being completed and indicate how you propose to report on outcomes achieved.

You describe work on redesigning care pathways to support change, and again here can you indicate when you anticipate you expect that to be completed and the changes implemented.
In response to the question about reviewing posts you indicate posts are reviewed when vacancies occur and also as part of service redesign. Would we be correct in understanding posts are not subject to review except in the two instances you describe?

Can you indicate what further work you are planning on delayed discharge and the relevant timescales?

We are grateful for the detail around smoking cessation and note the many details of activity and actions you provide.

I look forward to the further information sought and thereafter the subsequent detail as your deadlines expire. The intention of the Committee is to hold follow up sessions with Boards throughout this Parliamentary session.

Yours sincerely

Lewis Macdonald
Convener
Health and Sport Committee