



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Jeane Freeman MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Health
and Sport

Via email only

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Dear Cabinet Secretary

Health Hazards in the Healthcare Environment Inquiry

Thank you for your detailed letter of 14 May responding to the themes and issues we raised in our letter of 2 May regarding our inquiry into health hazards in the healthcare environment.

The Committee has considered your response and wishes to seek further information specifically relating to the Independent Review of the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital.

We are aware that the review has been consulting on its terms of reference. Are you able to confirm whether these have now been agreed and if the review is now underway? We asked in our previous letter what timescales you would consider appropriate for the independent review to conclude. In your response you stated that the review was committed to delivering within a timeframe that was meaningful for patients, families and friends affected and that you would update Parliament on the Review's plans shortly. We agree that this review must be timely and are keen to monitor the extent to which this commitment is delivered to that end we would like to be kept up to date with the reviews progress and its expected date for conclusion.

Thank you for providing in your letter of 14 May specific information on the individual who will provide expertise in construction to the independent review. We note in response to our request for assurance that although clinical expertise in the field of infection control or microbiology would be an integral part of the review no individuals were named. Are you able to provide information on who with this expertise will have an advisory role? Given the limited pool of expertise in this area please confirm

expert advice will be provided by individuals who have no previous direct or in-direct role with the hospital. We are keen to ensure an independent view to this aspect of the review.

We also wish to reiterate our view that consideration of building design, commissioning and construction are key components of the review. We would welcome further assurance this is a key area of focus.

It would be helpful to our further consideration if you could respond by 14 June.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lewis Macdonald". The signature is written in a cursive style with a blue underline for the first letter of "Lewis".

Lewis Macdonald

Convener, Health and Sport Committee