In my statement to Parliament on 18 September 2019, I announced that a public inquiry would be held into the matters of concern that have arisen at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital (QEUH) campus, Glasgow and the Royal Hospital for Children and Young People (RHCYP), Edinburgh. The Inquiry will be held under the Inquiries Act 2005.

This is an extremely important and complex task of national significance and I am writing to notify you that the Right Honourable Lord Brodie QC PC, a senator of the College of Justice, has agreed to take up the position of inquiry chair. Lord Brodie is a serving Judge of the Inner House of the Court of Session and I am pleased that someone of his stature and legal standing will chair this important inquiry.

I have a statutory obligation to consult the prospective chair on proposed terms of reference for the inquiry and I intend to meet Lord Brodie before Christmas to discuss this and other practical matters relating to the inquiry’s establishment, including timescales.

I have issued correspondence today to the affected patients and families to keep them updated on progress. I intend to share terms of reference with them for comment before the inquiry’s formal setting-up date. I will be in touch again early in the New Year with an update on this.

I am copying this letter to each of the Party Spokespeople on Health given their particular interest and engagement on this.

I trust this is helpful.

Kind regards,

Jeane Freeman

St Andrew’s House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot