

Director-General Health & Social Care and  
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Jenny Marra  
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Dear Ms Marra

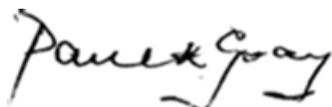
Please find enclosed a copy of the second report of the NHS Tayside Assurance and Advisory Group (AAG). This consists of a risk-based assessment produced by the NHS Tayside Transformation Support Team (TST), and a covering letter from Sir Lewis Ritchie on behalf of the AAG with their assessment of the Board's progress to implement the recommendations of their Staging Report.

I met NHS Tayside's Chair and Chief Executive, and their senior team, this week to discuss next steps and I took assurance from the progress made so far, and from the additional external scrutiny and challenge that will be provided by the Board's enhanced governance arrangements for the transformation programme. Nevertheless, I want to be assured that progress is being maintained, and I have therefore asked Sir Lewis Ritchie and Caroline Lamb, as respective chairs of the AAG and TST, to report to me again on progress as at 30 September 2018. Christine McLaughlin, Director of Health Finance, will also maintain Scottish Government oversight through regular review meetings with the Board's Chief Executive and relevant members of her team.

As to the Board's outstanding brokerage, I advised in my letter of 29 September 2017 that I expected to provide an update on receipt of the AAG's second progress report. Given that the implementation of the transformational change required in NHS Tayside will take time, I plan to keep the suspension of brokerage repayment in place for 3 years to provide certainty to NHS Tayside, rather than constantly returning to the issue.

I am copying this letter, for information, to the Convenor of the Health and Sport Committee and the Auditor General. I am of course happy to discuss it or to provide further detail if the Committee would find that helpful.

Yours sincerely



**Paul Gray**