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To the Conveners of:

Parliament Audit and Post Legislative Scrutiny  
Committee  
Health and Sport Committee

5 April 2018

Dear Conveners

### **NHS Tayside**

I am writing to you at the request of the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport to let you know that she has decided that the current structure of the Board of NHS Tayside cannot deliver the improvements required to return to a sustainable position, while continuing to deliver safe and effective services to patients. In particular, she has concerns about the overall management of the Board's finances and the ability of leadership to carry through the change required to bring the Board back into financial balance.

She will therefore be exercising her Ministerial powers of intervention and moving NHS Tayside to the highest level of escalation. By way of background, Ministers have the power of intervention under the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978 and these can be exercised if the Cabinet Secretary is of the opinion that any functions of a health board are not being exercised adequately. In line with these powers, she has instructed me, as Chief Executive of NHS Scotland, to strengthen the leadership of NHS Tayside with immediate effect.

I am copying this to the Cabinet Secretary, and to the Auditor General for Scotland. I will update the Committee further as soon as I have more detail to add.

Yours sincerely,



**Paul Gray**