

Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing
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Duncan McNeil
Convener
Health and Sport Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
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Our ref: A6495241

11 September 2013

Dear Duncan

Draft Budget 2014-15

Following your Committee's report to the Finance Committee on the 2013-14 Draft Budget, I responded to the report on a range of different issues at the beginning of February 2013. In advance of the publication of the 2014-15 Draft Budget, I thought that it would be helpful to update you on progress against each of the recommendations contained in last year's report. Below is a copy of the original recommendation, original response and the current position.

The update also includes details on the split between significant risk and high risk backlog, and the target figure for maintenance backlog for next year which we agreed to provide you following the evidence session on 25 June featuring John Matheson, Director of Finance, eHealth and Pharmaceuticals, John Connaghan, Director of Health Workforce and Performance, and Linda Semple, Head of Efficiency and Productivity Portfolio Office, Scottish Government.

Prior to the publication of your report, officials from the Committee met with Scottish Government officials at the beginning of the year to identify areas where we can work more closely together and I would be happy to offer a similar session again.

Finally during the evidence session on 4 June where the Committee took evidence from three Directors of Finance from Special Health Boards, the feedback that I received was that it was an extremely productive and helpful session and that they have suggested that it might be useful if they prepare a submission for the Committee which more fully explains the crucial role that Special Health Boards play in the running of NHSScotland.

Yours sincerely

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