

Dalian House
 PO Box 15329
 350 St. Vincent Street
 GLASGOW
 G3 8YZ
 Tel. 0141 201 4642
 Fax. 0141 201 4601
 Textphone: 0141 201 4479
 www.nhsggc.org.uk



Mr. Franck David
 Assistant Clerk to the Public Petitions Committee
 Tower 4, TG.01
 The Scottish Parliament
 Holyrood
 EH99 1SP

Date 27th July 2010
 Your Ref
 Our Ref RCFEB

Enquiries to Miss Florence Blackburn
 Direct Line 0141 201 4642
 E-mail florence.blackburn@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Dear Mr David,

Public Petitions Committee PE 1105

I refer to your letter of 22nd April 2010

The specific question asked of the Board is "What discussions have taken place between Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board and the petitioner since Des McNulty MSP's Members Business on 11th March 2010 and what progress did result".

Since March 2010, discussions have been ongoing between the Chairman of the NHS Board and the Chairman of St Margaret's of Scotland Hospice with meetings in March and April, and the latest on 25th June.

Officers of the Board also continue to have discussions with St Margaret's of Scotland Hospice on a wide range of matters concerning palliative care and the Hospice continues to be a member of the Board's Managed Clinical Network for Palliative Care (MCN). The MCN most recently met on the 19th May. The next meeting is scheduled for 26th August.

At its meeting on 22nd June the NHS Board has considered a paper outlining the findings of a Health Needs Assessment for palliative care and agreed that an extensive programme of work required to be taken forward over the next twelve months to reach final decisions on the implementation of change and to reach a final appraisal of any proposals for the development of services. St Margaret's proposal to increase their specialist palliative care services to replace the NHS continuing care service is one such development proposal. The Board paper and Board's decision have been shared with the Hospice and discussed by the Chairmen. The Hospice continues to decline to consider any other options suggested by the Board.

On the 7th May, the Board issued a draft service level agreement with an associated increase in funding of £85,000 for 2010/11 to St Margaret's. The Hospice has not yet responded.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Robert Calderwood'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Robert Calderwood
 Chief Executive

c.c. Ms. Anne Harkness