

Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery Health and
Social Care
Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Ath-shlànachadh NHS, Slàinte
agus Cùram Sòisealta
Michael Matheson MSP/BPA



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

T : 0300 244 4000
E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Ian Murray MP
ian.murray.mp@parliament.uk

Our Reference: 202300350946
Your Reference: IM87614

21 April 2023

Dear Ian,

Thank you for your correspondence of 29 March 2023 about GP services in South East Edinburgh.

I recognise Edinburgh's population growth creates a need for investment in healthcare facilities and I understand your disappointment that the NHS is not in a position to progress the construction of a new GP practice building in Liberton.

The Scottish Government's Infrastructure Investment Plan sets out the government's infrastructure priorities for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26, and is available online at: [A National Mission with Local Impact: Infrastructure Investment Plan for Scotland 2021-22 to 2025-26 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/infrastructure-investment-plan-2021-22-to-2025-26/pages/introduction.aspx). However, since this publication there have been some major developments which has affected the Scottish Government's ability to fund capital projects: firstly, the amount of capital grant from the UK Government over the next two years was lower than expected; and secondly, construction costs have increased quickly and significantly.

Consequently we are focusing healthcare infrastructure spending on the priority projects identified in that plan, which for NHS Lothian is the National Treatment Centre and an upgrade of the existing Edinburgh Cancer Centre. In addition, NHS Lothian is progressing other key projects, including a new Eye Hospital and a new Regional Specialist Cancer Centre at the Western General Hospital.

In terms of preparing for the period beyond 2025-26, an exact timeline has not been agreed for publication of the next Infrastructure Investment Plan for 2026 and the following 5 years, but in line with previous iterations of the plan, I would expect it to be published in late 2025.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot

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



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE™
We invest in people Silver



It is important that Health Boards have a capital investment plan which balances the needs for investment across all parts of the system, and I look forward to working with Boards to achieve this.

I hope this response is helpful.

Yours sincerely,



MICHAEL MATHESON

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot

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



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE™
We invest in people Silver

