

From: [redacted]
Sent: 03 November 2017 15:39
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Letter for publication - Cladding article

Thanks [redacted],

Will do.

[redacted]

From: [redacted] [[\[redacted\] heraldandtimes.co.uk](#)]
Sent: 03 November 2017 15:27
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Letter for publication - Cladding article

Hi [redacted]. In the first instance, please could you speak to [redacted] about this?

Cheers

From: [redacted]
Sent: 03 November 2017 15:22
To: [redacted] [[\[redacted\] heraldandtimes.co.uk](#)]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Letter for publication - Cladding article

Hi [redacted]

My colleague [redacted] sent over a line last night, asking that it be added to the online version of an article saying that councils hadn't provided information about cladding on high rise buildings. That doesn't appear to have been done.

Please could you consider printing the following letter clarifying what the work being tendered for will actually do.

Please give me a shout if you have any questions,

Thanks

[redacted]

Your report on Thursday was incorrect to suggest that councils had not provided information on aluminium composite materials (ACM) used on high rise buildings, such as that used in Grenfell Tower. The inventory now being tendered by the government will extend beyond ACM and will collate details of range of fire safety measures in Scotland's existing high rise housing for the first time. This information will be used by the Ministerial Working Group established in the wake of the Grenfell tragedy to inform decisions on fire and building safety measures, such as retrofitting of sprinklers, to improve fire safety of high-rise buildings in Scotland. This issue deserves our serious consideration and we are absolutely committed to taking the steps necessary to review current practise and reassure all those living in high rise buildings. It is disappointing that no approach was made to the government to clarify this misunderstanding of the work being undertaken.

Kevin Stewart, Minister for Housing.

Line sent last night

I understand that you are expecting a line from the Scottish Government for inclusion in the following article?

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15635634.Data_on_Grenfell_style_cladding_still_incomplete/

Please see below.

“This inventory goes beyond the initial reports from councils establishing whether buildings were clad in aluminium composite material (ACM). As a result of that work we will get a clearer picture of the range of materials being used and the extent of existing fire suppression systems used in Scotland. This work will provide additional

information to ensure that our reviews of building and fire safety are comprehensive, reassuring residents that all necessary steps have been taken.”

[redacted]

Media Manager

Communications Health and CSSE Hub

[redacted]

From: [redacted]heraldandtimes.co.uk]

Sent: 18 October 2017 13:06

To: [redacted]

Subject: RE: AHSCT

I've passed on to [redacted] anyway, who fills in as ed for [redacted] (who is off on annual leave)

Thanks

[redacted]

From: [redacted]

Sent: 18 October 2017 12:50

To: [redacted]heraldandtimes.co.uk]

Subject: RE: AHSCT

Thanks [redacted].

It looks as though that line has just been added, as it wasn't on the online version earlier:

A spokeswoman for the Scottish **Government** said: "NHS Boards can commission treatment in other countries on an ad hoc basis, particularly where a highly specialised service is involved."



A spokeswoman for NSD said: "Autologous stem cell transplantation is a highly specialised treatment which is commissioned in the UK by NHS England, after consideration by a multi-disciplinary team.

"If a referring health board in Scotland, in consultation with the Scottish Stem Cell Transplant team, recommends that a patient is suitable to receive this specialised treatment, an application is made to NSD and a decision is made on the basis of the clinical information provided in the application."

However I see it is now, so appreciate that.

[redacted]

[redacted] | Communications Communities, Social Security & Health | Scottish Government | [redacted]053 | [redacted]

For out of hours media enquiries, please call 0300 244 4000.

From: [redacted]heraldandtimes.co.uk]
Sent: 18 October 2017 12:44
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: AHSCT

Hi [redacted]

I will pass to newsdesk for decision, but that particular sentence is included in the online copy (which is the version as I filed it):

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15602355.Scots_patients_missing_out_on_pioneering_treatment_available_in_England/

Elsewhere in the article I do make clear that this is not a treatment suitable for the majority of patients – “The criteria used by NHS England is extremely strict, so the vast majority of MS patients will not qualify”.

The quote from the MS Society also makes clear that it’s a “high risk” treatment and the quote from NSD also reiterates the point that a decision is made on “the clinical information provided”.

Best,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]

Sent: 18 October 2017 12:07

To: [redacted]heraldandtimes.co.uk]

Cc: [redacted]heraldandtimes.co.uk]

Subject: RE: AHST

[redacted]

It’s disappointing to see the way in which the quote we gave you has been edited.

The treatment in question is not clinically appropriate for the majority of people living with MS. A very small number of patients will be eligible to be assessed for it, with an even smaller number being deemed to meet the criteria - as the FOI figures show.

In particular the sentence I've highlighted below, which was removed, makes clear that it's about ensuring treatments offered are clinically appropriate and do not endanger patients.

Could we request that a clarification is printed, please?

[redacted]

[redacted] | Communications Communities, Social Security & Health | Scottish Government | [redacted]053 | [redacted]

For out of hours media enquiries, please call 0300 244 4000.

From: [redacted]
Sent: 17 October 2017 18:14
To: [redacted]heraldandtimes.co.uk
Subject: AH SCT

Hello [redacted],

Here you go:

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“We are committed to improving services, treatment and outcomes for those living with Multiple Sclerosis and are investing £216,000 into research over the lifetime of this Parliament, so we can understand more about the condition.

“AHSCT is not widely available anywhere on the NHS in the UK. Whilst the vast majority of healthcare provided by NHS Scotland is delivered in Scotland, NHS Boards can commission treatment in other countries on an ad hoc basis, particularly where a highly specialised service is involved. **Clinical assessments and referral criteria for particular treatments are vital to ensure that patient safety remains paramount.**

“We are also investing an extra £2.5m of recurring funding into the specialist nursing and care fund to help ensure that everyone living with MS has appropriate access to care, and as recognition of the great value of MS specialist nurses in providing that care.”

Many thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted]

Communications Justice and Education | [redacted]

Scottish Government | www.gov.scot | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)

From: [redacted]

Sent: 27 September 2017 18:12

To:; [redacted@the-sun.co.uk];'[redacted]@express.co.uk';
[redacted]@telegraph.co.uk'

Subject: Cancer waiting times - correction

Evening

In the news release issued by the Scottish Government yesterday on cancer waiting times, the Health Secretary was quoted as saying:

“The average wait for cancer treatment is 6 days currently.”

As we have two separate cancer targets, this should more correctly read:

“**Once a decision to treat has been made**, the average wait for cancer treatment is 6 days currently.”

This has been changed on our website. I am contacting you as your print copy today contained the original sentence, and to ask that if there is any online copy on the website I'd be very grateful if you arrange for it to be amended.

Thanks in advance

[redacted]

[redacted] Communications Health

Scottish Government

St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

[redacted]

-----Original Message-----

From: [redacted]

Sent: 26 September 2017 11:17

To: [redacted]pressassociation.com'

Cc: [redacted]

Subject: RE: health

[redacted], PA colleagues

Sorry about this, we will need to change the last paragraph to state that the £71 million also includes support for workload and services.

Health Secretary Shona Robison said:

“NHS staffing has risen to an all-time high level, increasing by more than 9% under this government, with around 12,000 more health service workers as a result.

“There are a variety of reasons why boards would take over the running of a GP practice. Boards have historically either had involvement in the running of, or provided some degree of support to practices, as part of their responsibility to ensure that everyone in Scotland has access to GP services.

“By the end of this Parliament we will have invested £250 million a year in direct support of general practice. In this financial year, over £71 million of that funding is supporting general practice by improving recruitment and retention, reducing workload and developing new ways of delivering services.”

Regards
[redacted]
Head of Communications Health
Scottish Government
St Andrew’s House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
[redacted]

-----Original Message-----

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 September 2017 10:14
To: [redacted]@pressassociation.com
Subject: FW: health

Hi - I see there is no SG response in the copy below.

Please find our cleared lines for immediate use.

Thanks, [redacted]

Health Secretary Shona Robison said:

“NHS staffing has risen to an all-time high level, increasing by more than 9% under this government, with around 12,000 more health service workers as a result.

“There are a variety of reasons why boards would take over the running of a GP practice. Boards have historically either had involvement in the running of, or provided some degree of support to practices, as part of their responsibility to ensure that everyone in Scotland has access to GP services.

“We’re committed to investing a further £500 million in primary care by the end of this parliament, with £250 million of this in direct support of GPs. As part of this over £71 million is being invested this year to help support GP recruitment and retention.”

-----Original Message-----

From: [redacted]

Sent: 26 September 2017 00:02

To: Communications Healthier

Subject: health

52 SCOTTISH GP PRACTICES RETURNED CONTRACTS TO LOCAL NHS BOARDS IN 2016

PA

SCOTLAND GPs

26-Sep-2017 00:01:04

By Paul Ward, Press Association Scotland

Advisory: First issued under embargo

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A record number of Scottish GP practices returned contracts to health boards last year.

The Royal College of GPs (RCGP) said 2016 saw 52 practices given '2C' status, prompting concerns over patient care and lost value for money.

A 2C practice is one which has returned its contract to the health board, feeling unable to meet its obligations, RCGP said. The practice is then run by a local NHS Board.

More than 160,000 patients across the country were registered in 2C practices last year, up from 83,290 a decade ago.

RCGP Scotland said it removed GPs from leadership roles and reduced continuity of care for patients.

Dr Miles Mack, chair of RCGP Scotland and a GP in Dingwall, said: "Right across Scotland, GP practices are being forced to close their doors or hand their contracts back to health boards.

"RCGP is particularly concerned over the impact that changing to 2C has on patient care and on lost value for money in healthcare services.

"In particular, it means that GPs are no longer in a leadership role and there is less continuity of care for patients.

"Patients' GP services have been the target of disinvestment for over a decade, falling from 9.8% of NHS Scotland's spending in 2005/06 to just 7.2% in 2015/16, the last year we have figures for.

"Sufficient action must be taken to fill the projected shortfall of 856 GPs across Scotland by 2021. To fund that appropriately we need 11% of

NHS Scotland's budget to go to general practice services.

"The Scottish Government's own Govan SHIP project has shown how much patients can benefit through such measures. Funding for wider primary care, already at 23% of NHS Scotland's budget, also could be increased."

mfl

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Speaking before a Scottish Parliament debate on GP recruitment on Tuesday, Scottish Conservative shadow health secretary Miles Briggs said: "This a depressing indication of just how serious Scotland's GP crisis has become.

"These are not decisions a GP practice would take lightly, and tens of thousands of patients will have been hit as a result.

"The SNP has had more than a decade to ensure Scotland has a well-resourced, well-equipped GP set-up.

"Instead, dozens of practices are returning their contracts because they can't meet their obligations."

Labour's health spokesperson Anas Sarwar said: "These are deeply concerning figures that once again reveal the scale of the SNP's mismanagement of our NHS.

"Local practices are a vital part of our health service and it is deeply troubling to see them close."

ends