

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of First Minister
Sent: 12 March 2024 15:47
To: Julie Grant; First Minister; Michael Berry
Cc: Jason Leitch; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance; DG Health & Social Care; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; Caroline Lamb; [REDACTED] Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport; Minister for Public Health & Women's Health; Permanent Secretary; John Burns; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; Nicola Richards; Jennie Gollan; Mark Taylor; Colin McAllister; David Hutchison
Subject: RE: News release for clearance - Jason Leitch resignation

Julie, Michael

The First Minister is content.

Many thanks,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
**Deputy Private Secretary
Office of the First Minister**

[REDACTED] | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | [REDACTED]

The First Minister's box closes at 2pm, Monday to Friday. Further details, including preferences, can be found [here](#).

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

Please note Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Government are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot for information.

From: Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 3:36 PM
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Michael Berry <Michael.Berry2@gov.scot>
Cc: Jason Leitch <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CabSecforNRHSC@gov.scot>; Caroline Lamb <Caroline.Lamb@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport <MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health & Women's Health <MinisterPHWH@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; John Burns <John.Burns@gov.scot>; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthandSocialCare@gov.scot>; Nicola Richards <Nicola.Richards@gov.scot>; Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; Mark Taylor <Mark.Taylor@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: News release for clearance - Jason Leitch resignation

Adding Colin and Davie

From: Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot> On Behalf Of First Minister
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 2:34 PM
To: Michael Berry <Michael.Berry2@gov.scot>; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Jason Leitch <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance

<DFMCSF@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CabSecforNRHSC@gov.scot>; Caroline Lamb <Caroline.Lamb@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport <MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health & Women's Health <MinisterPHWH@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; John Burns <John.Burns@gov.scot>; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthandSocialCare@gov.scot>; Nicola Richards <Nicola.Richards@gov.scot>; Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; Mark Taylor <Mark.Taylor@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: News release for clearance - Jason Leitch resignation

Michael – the FM is currently on stage at his speaking event. He won't be in a position to clear this until around 1530. We will seek clearance urgently at that point.

Thanks

Chris

Chris Mackie

Principal Private Secretary to the First Minister

[REDACTED] | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
[REDACTED]



Office of the First Minister of Scotland

FirstMinister.gov.scot

Prìomh Mhinistear na h-Alba

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From: Michael Berry <Michael.Berry2@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 2:17 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: Jason Leitch <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CabSecforNRHSC@gov.scot>; Caroline Lamb <Caroline.Lamb@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport <MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health & Women's Health <MinisterPHWH@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; John Burns <John.Burns@gov.scot>; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthandSocialCare@gov.scot>; Nicola Richards <Nicola.Richards@gov.scot>; Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; Mark Taylor <Mark.Taylor@gov.scot>

Subject: News release for clearance - Jason Leitch resignation

FMPO

As flagged in the submission, we plan to issue the below news release later this afternoon. This has been approved by DG Health, Jason and Colin. This will issue shortly after staff communication has taken place. I am also in touch with NHS Tayside.

I appreciate the First Minister is at a speaking engagement this afternoon, I would be grateful for the First Minister's comments/clearance please when possible thanks.

National Clinical Director to leave

Jason Leitch will leave the post at the end of April.

Professor Jason Leitch will leave his role as National Clinical Director at the end of April.

Arrangements for the post will be set out in due course.

Professor Leitch said:

"It has been an enormous privilege to carry out this role and work closely with colleagues across the health and care sector in service of the patients, their families and carers. The NHS and social care system does remarkable work every day, and I am immensely proud of the teams I have had the privilege of being part of.

"The ongoing success of the Scottish Patient Safety Programme is globally recognised and has significantly improved the safety and reliability of care in many ways. The Covid pandemic was an unprecedented challenge for all countries and I am proud of my colleagues inside and outside Government for their incredible work. It was a privilege to be able to communicate with the public so directly and be part of that co-ordinated response, and I will forever be grateful for the public's attention and willingness to follow the guidance - it saved lives. I have decided to look for new challenges across health and care after a break, and to spend more time with the charities I work with. I wish colleagues well for the future."

First Minister Humza Yousaf said:

"Jason Leitch has made a fantastic contribution to the health of the nation, leading work to reduce hospital acquired infections and improve the quality of care in the NHS. The enduring success of the Scottish Patient Safety Programme is testament to his work. He played a huge role in helping me and fellow Ministers navigate the Covid pandemic by providing advice to help reach the best decisions, and by communicating so well with the public. I of course wish him every success in the future."

Background

Professor Leitch will also leave his post at NHS Tayside at the end of April. He is employed on standard NHS Consultant terms and conditions by NHS Tayside and works full time for the Scottish Government under a Service Level Agreement. This is a typical arrangement through which the Scottish Government draws in specialist knowledge from the NHS. Professor Leitch does not receive another salary or pension on top of his NHS Tayside contract, nor will he receive any additional remuneration upon leaving.

Jason Leitch has worked for the Scottish Government since 2007 and was appointed as National Clinical Director in the Health and Social Care Directorate in January 2015. Prior to his Government role he was an oral surgery Consultant in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde. He is an Honorary Professor at the University of Dundee and a Visiting Professor at the University of Strathclyde. He was awarded a CBE in the 2019 Birthday Honours. He is also a Board member of two large international charities, the Nazareth Trust which runs a hospital and nursing school in Northern Israel and the Indian Rural Evangelical Fellowship which runs an orphanage, college and nursing school in rural south-east India.

END

Michael
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot> On Behalf Of DG Health & Social Care

Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 12:26 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CabSecforNRHSC@gov.scot>

Cc: Jason Leitch <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; Caroline Lamb <Caroline.Lamb@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; Michael Berry <Michael.Berry2@gov.scot>; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport <MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health & Women's Health <MinisterPHWH@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; John Burns <John.Burns@gov.scot>; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care <CommunicationsNHSRecoveryHealthandSocialCare@gov.scot>; Nicola Richards <Nicola.Richards@gov.scot>; Jennie Gollan <Jennie.Gollan@gov.scot>; Mark Taylor <Mark.Taylor@gov.scot>

Subject: Jason Leitch Resignation

First Minister
Deputy First Minister
Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care,

Please find attached submission advising of the resignation of Jason Leitch, his last day in SG being 30/04/24. I am aware Jason has contacted you directly to advise, we will notify staff and issue a press release later this afternoon.

Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Chief of Staff
DG Health and Social Care Office
Scottish Government
1E.16 St Andrews House
[REDACTED]

Responsibility for filing key documents and communications on the record, including those sent to DG Health and Social Care and Caroline Lamb, rests with relevant policy and operational areas within Directorates. The DG Support Team does not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.