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The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
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Your ref:
Our ref: 2018/0012998
17th May 2018

Dear Miles

Thank you for your email of 3 April regarding car parking at hospitals.

NHS Lothian have advised me that they have been working closely with the City of Edinburgh Council to try to maximise the number of spaces which were permitted at the time of planning of the initial Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh buildings and, more recently, with the new buildings under construction at the site. The Health Board will also, in general, continue to look at any options for increasing the availability of parking at all its sites. Indeed, as part of a possible future expansion of clinical services at St John's hospital, the Health Board will consider additional car parking options. Meanwhile, NHS Tayside has assured me that they will continue to monitor and review the parking situation at Ninewells Hospital.

Although I am grateful to you for your suggestion that the Scottish Government establish a working group, you will also be aware that the Scottish Government sets overall national policy, and whilst it will continue to monitor the situation with respect to PFI contracts entered into by the previous administration, it is for Health Boards themselves to ensure adequate parking facilities according to local circumstances.

I hope this helps to clarify the position.

SHONA ROBISON

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