Sent via e-mail

 11th December 2024

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

I want to start by saying that I am delighted that the Scottish Government has announced it is going ahead with a new Eye Pavilion in Edinburgh and I wanted to thank you for your part in making this happen. For over 10 years, patients in Edinburgh have been forced to use a facility that is not fit for purpose.

However, we have been here before, with multiple U-turns from the Scottish Government, and campaigners have had many false dawns on the road to securing a new facility. With the closure of the current hospital, it is imperative that this project is completed as soon as possible. Campaigners and patients need clarity.

In light of this, I would appreciate if you could address the following points about the next steps for the new eye pavilion.

1. What is the current timeline estimation for the new facility to be completed?
2. What is the arrangement for acquiring the land at Little France from Scottish Enterprise?
3. When will construction work begin on the project?
4. Will you commit to meet with campaigners, stakeholders, and Lothian MSPs at the earliest opportunity to brief us on current situation?

I do not need to tell you how critical this project is to the health infrastructure for Lothian. I look forward to working closely to make sure it is delivered.

Yours sincerely,



**Sarah Boyack
Member of Scottish Parliament for Lothian Region (Scottish Labour)**

**Shadow Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture**