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Mr. Franck David,
 Assistant Clerk to the
 Public Petitions Committee,
 Tower 4, TG.01,
 The Scottish Parliament,
 Edinburgh, EH99 1SP.

Date 25th October 2010
 Your Ref
 Our Ref RCAH\FEB

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Dear Mr David,

PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE PE 1105

I refer to your letter of 7th October, 2010.

The specific question asked of the Board is " What discussions have taken place between Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board and the petitioner since Des McNulty MSP's Members Business on 11th March, 2010 and what progress did result ".

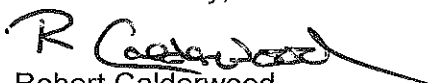
Since March, 2010, discussions have been ongoing between the Chairman of the NHS Board and the Chairman of St Margaret's of Scotland Hospice with meetings in March and April, and the latest on 25th June.

Officers of the Board also continue to have discussions with St Margaret's of Scotland Hospice on a wide range of matters concerning palliative care and the Hospice continues to be a member of the Board's Managed Clinical Network for Palliative Care (MCN). The MCN most recently met on the 19th May.

At its meeting on 22nd June, 2010 the NHS Board considered a paper outlining the findings of a Health Needs Assessment for Palliative Care. It was agreed that an extensive programme of work required to be taken forward, over the next twelve months, to reach final decisions on the implementation of change and to reach a final appraisal of any proposals for the development of services. St Margaret's proposal to increase their specialist palliative care services, to replace the NHS continuing care service, is one such development proposal. The Board paper and Board's decision have been shared with the Hospice, and discussed by the Chairmen. The Hospice continues to decline to consider any other options suggested by the Board.

On the 7th May, 2010 the Board issued a draft service level agreement, with an associated increase in funding of £85,000, for 2010/11 to St Margaret's. The Hospice has not yet responded.

Yours sincerely,


 Robert Calderwood
 Chief Executive

c.c. Ms. Anne Harkness