

**FOI case: 202300361915: Conservatives Winter Plan 2022/23: Plan Care 1 response**

**ITEM 1**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2022 1:45 PM

**To:** David Hutchison; Ross Ingebrigtsen; Stuart Nicolson; Emily Mackintosh

**Cc:** Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; James G (Gordon) ; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; John Burns; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Mel Giarchi; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Gillian Barclay; Paula Speirs; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: SPAD VIEW: Scottish Conservatives outline "real" winter recovery plan for NHS - Scotsman/Mail/PA/Telegraph

Davie

I have added this par – and will send up for clearance.

[redacted s.25(1)] Article is published here:

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/scotland-nhs-winter-crisis-government-urged-to-introduce-super-saturdays-and-punish-health-boards-who-fail-on-waiting-times-3950624>

[redacted s.25(1)] Article is published here:

<https://www.nursingtimes.net/news/workforce/gmb-rejects-latest-nhs-pay-offer-in-scotland-16-12-2022/>

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

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**ITEM 2**

**From:** Hutchison D (David)

**Sent:** 12 December 2022 13:30

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Ingebrigtsen R (Ross); Nicolson S (Stuart); Mackintosh E (Emily)

**Cc:** Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; James G (Gordon) ; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; John Burns; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Mel Giarchi; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Gillian Barclay; Paula Speirs; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: SPAD VIEW: Scottish Conservatives outline "real" winter recovery plan for NHS - Scotsman/Mail/PA/Telegraph

[redacted s.30(b)(ii)]

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### ITEM 3

**From:** [REDACTED S38 1 (B)]

**Sent:** 12 December 2022 13:13

**To:** Hutchison D (David) (Special Adviser) <[David.Hutchison@gov.scot](mailto:David.Hutchison@gov.scot)>; Ingebrigtsen R (Ross) <[Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot](mailto:Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot)>; Nicolson S (Stuart) (Special Adviser) <[Stuart.Nicolson@gov.scot](mailto:Stuart.Nicolson@gov.scot)>; Mackintosh E (Emily) <[Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot](mailto:Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot)>

**Cc:** Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; James G (Gordon) ; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; John Burns; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Mel Giarchi; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Gillian Barclay; Paula Speirs; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** SPAD VIEW: Scottish Conservatives outline “real” winter recovery plan for NHS - Scotsman/Mail/PA/Telegraph

Good afternoon Spads

We have been asked by a number of outlets for a response to a Conservative NR detailing their winter plan for the NHS.

The Scotsman has asked specifically about the proposal for 'Super Saturdays', an NHS Care app to provide waiting times, and a full electronic repeat prescription system.

PA has asked about the sanctions for health boards.

[redacted s.30(b)(ii)]

Would be grateful for your view.

Kind regards

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

[redacted s.30(b)(ii)]

### QUERY

## Scottish Conservatives outline “real” winter recovery plan for NHS

Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party press office

Monday 12 December 2022

FAO: all newsdesks

Embargo: for immediate release

The Scottish Conservatives have today unveiled a “real” winter recovery plan for Scotland’s NHS, which continues to lurch from crisis to crisis under Humza Yousaf.

The policy paper – drafted by Sandesh Gulhane and his shadow health team – is published days after the (latest) worst-ever A&E waiting times were recorded on the failed SNP health secretary’s watch.

Just 61.9% of patients were seen within the SNP's four-hour target time across Scotland, with the figure dipping to only 36.8% at the flagship Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow.

Delayed discharge is also at its highest-ever level, with close to 1,900 beds taken up by patients who are well enough to return home but can't because no social care package is in place for them.

Shadow health secretary and practising GP Dr Gulhane insists "it doesn't have to be like this" and has revealed a series of policies that could improve the situation for patients and staff right now.

These include:

- **Introducing new crisis maximum waiting times.** This would set a floor that patients could expect to wait for treatment during winter and would be backed up by sanctions on health boards who breach these targets.
- **Running 'Super Saturdays' to make better use of facilities and clear backlogs.** Health boards would choose a single type of treatment or operation to be exclusively carried out that day.
- **Set up a winter network of mobile testing and drive-through facilities.** This would set up Covid testing-style units for CT scans, blood tests and Electrocardiograms (ECGs).
- **Introduce an NHS Care App to allow patients to see live hospital waiting times.** This would allow patients to help the NHS manage demand and see where they are in the queue for operations.
- **Introduce a full Electronic Repeat Prescription system.** This would effectively copy current prescriptions without the need for it to be signed again.
- **Introduce 'Prehab' for those awaiting treatment.** That means giving them information and support to live as healthy a lifestyle as possible, so that they are fit enough for treatment to be carried out.
- **Roll out and expand Reach teams across all health boards.** This would help elderly individuals to avoid having to return to hospital.

Dr Gulhane says Scotland's NHS is facing its worst-ever winter and that the responsibility for the "catastrophic situation" lies firmly with Humza Yousaf, who should be sacked by Nicola Sturgeon.

He added that things have only got "far worse" after Humza Yousaf produced his flimsy recovery plan in August 2021 and that his winter plan revealed in October did nothing to address the challenges facing the health service.

**Scottish Conservative Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care Dr Sandesh Gulhane MSP, said:** "Our NHS is facing its worst-ever winter and needs a real recovery plan.

"The paper we've published today contains a range of innovative yet practical measures that would alleviate some of the huge pressures on our health service right away.

"Despite the best efforts of dedicated frontline staff, things have only got worse since Humza Yousaf produced his flimsy recovery plan for the NHS last year.

"A&E waiting times are the worst on record, as are the levels of delayed discharge, and one in seven Scots is now on a waiting list on the watch of a failed health secretary, who deserves to be sacked.

"It's suffering patients, and overstretched staff, who are paying the price for his mismanagement – but it doesn't have to be like this.

“There is an alternative and that is why the Scottish Conservatives have produced these bold and detailed policies that could immediately help our NHS through this incredibly challenging winter.

“From introducing maximum waiting times, to setting up a network of winter drive-through facilities and allowing patients to see live waiting times, all these measures would improve efficiency now.

“The crisis in our NHS is deepening by the day and Humza Yousaf has lost the trust of patients and staff alike. I urge the SNP to adopt the Scottish Conservatives’ plans today to make immediate and tangible improvements.

**The Scottish Conservatives’ policy paper, A Real Winter Recovery Plan for our NHS, is attached.**

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

Senior Media Manager

Scottish Government

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#### **ITEM 4**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2022 3:25 PM

**To:** Stuart Nicolson; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care 2021 to 2023

**Cc:** Communications Health & Social Care; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; James G (Gordon) ; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; John Burns;

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Mel Giarchi; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Gillian

Barclay; Paula Speirs; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; David Hutchison; Ross Ingebrigtsen; Emily

Mackintosh; Minister for Mental Wellbeing & Social Care 2021 to 2023; Minister for Public Health,

Women's Health & Sport 2021 to 2023; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; DG Health & Social Care;

Deputy Chief Medical Officers; Chief Nursing Officer; Chief Medical Officer; Jason Leitch

**Subject:** RE: FOR CLEARANCE: Scottish Conservatives outline “real” winter recovery plan for NHS -

Scotsman/Mail/PA/Telegraph

Hi Stuart

Requests for a response from:

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

Will let you know if any more come in.

Regards

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

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#### **ITEM 5**

**From:** Nicolson S (Stuart)

**Sent:** 12 December 2022 15:12

**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** Communications Health & Social Care; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; James G (Gordon) ; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; John Burns; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Mel Giarchi; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Gillian Barclay; Paula Speirs; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; David Hutchison; Ross Ingebrigtsen; Emily Mackintosh; Minister for Mental Wellbeing & Social Care 2021 to 2023; Minister for Public Health, Women's Health & Sport 2021 to 2023; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; DG Health & Social Care; Deputy Chief Medical Officers; Chief Nursing Officer; Chief Medical Officer; Jason Leitch  
**Subject:** RE: FOR CLEARANCE: Scottish Conservatives outline “real” winter recovery plan for NHS - Scotsman/Mail/PA/Telegraph

Ok – comms can I get email addresses of journalists asking for a line.

Thanks

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#### **ITEM 6**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)] On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care  
**Sent:** 12 December 2022 14:25  
**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care  
**Cc:** Communications Health & Social Care; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; James G (Gordon) ; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; John Burns; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Mel Giarchi; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Gillian Barclay; Paula Speirs; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; David Hutchison; Ross Ingebrigtsen; Emily Mackintosh; Minister for Mental Wellbeing & Social Care 2021 to 2023; Minister for Public Health, Women's Health & Sport 2021 to 2023; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; DG Health & Social Care; Deputy Chief Medical Officers; Chief Nursing Officer; Chief Medical Officer; Jason Leitch  
**Subject:** RE: FOR CLEARANCE: Scottish Conservatives outline “real” winter recovery plan for NHS - Scotsman/Mail/PA/Telegraph

The Cab Sec has reviewed and asks special advisers to include the below.

[redacted s.30(b)(ii)]

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Deputy Private Secretary,  
Office of the Cabinet Secretary  
for Health & Social Care,

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#### **ITEM 7**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 12 December 2022 14:10

**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

**Cc:** Communications Health & Social Care; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; James G (Gordon) ; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; John Burns; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Mel Giarchi; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Gillian Barclay; Paula Speirs; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; David Hutchison; Ross Ingebrigtsen; Emily Mackintosh; Minister for Mental Wellbeing & Social Care 2021 to 2023; Minister for Public Health, Women's Health & Sport 2021 to 2023; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; DG Health & Social Care; Deputy Chief Medical Officers; Chief Nursing Officer; Chief Medical Officer; Jason Leitch  
**Subject:** FOR CLEARANCE: Scottish Conservatives outline “real” winter recovery plan for NHS - Scotsman/Mail/PA/Telegraph

**[redacted s.30(b)(ii)]**

Good afternoon Cabinet Secretary/PO

We have been asked by a number of outlets for a response to a Conservative NR detailing their winter plan for the NHS.

The Scotsman has asked specifically about the proposal for 'Super Saturdays', an NHS Care app to provide waiting times, and a full electronic repeat prescription system.

PA has asked about the sanctions for health boards.

**[redacted s.30(b)(ii)]**

Would be grateful for your view.

Kind regards

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

**PROPOSED RESPONSE**

**[redacted s.30(b)(ii)]**

**QUERY (ref: ITEM 3)**

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

Senior Media Manager

Scottish Government

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**FOI case: 202300361915: Conservatives Winter Plan 2022/23: Plan Care 2 response**

**ITEM 1**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** Saturday, April 1, 2023 3:49 PM

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; John Burns; Richard McCallum; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Deputy Director Health and Social Care; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; HSC Waiting Times Policy; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Linda Pollock; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Chief Medical Officer; Graham Ellis; Gordon James; Paula Speirs; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Jason Leitch; DG Health & Social Care; Richard Foggo; Christine McLaughlin; Douglas McLaren

**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

**Subject:** RE: Policy views: Media query - PA - Cons NR - NHS Recovery Plan  
Thanks [redacted: s.38(1)(b)] - happy.

Sent with BlackBerry Work ([www.blackberry.com](http://www.blackberry.com))

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**ITEM 2**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 1 Apr 2023 15:34

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; John Burns; Richard McCallum; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Deputy Director Health and Social Care; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; HSC Waiting Times Policy; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Linda Pollock; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Chief Medical Officer; Graham Ellis; Gordon James; Paula Speirs; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Jason Leitch; DG Health & Social Care; Richard Foggo; Christine McLaughlin; Douglas McLaren

**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

**Subject:** RE: Policy views: Media query - PA - Cons NR - NHS Recovery Plan

Thanks [redacted: s.38(1)(b)] – how about the below?

Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care Michael Matheson said:

[redacted: s.25(1)] Article is published here:

<https://www.scottishdailyexpress.co.uk/news/politics/humza-yousafs-flimsy-nhs-recovery-29606485>

### ITEM 3

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 01 April 2023 15:22

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; John Burns; Richard McCallum; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Deputy Director Health and Social Care; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; HSC Waiting Times Policy; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Linda Pollock; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Chief Medical Officer; Graham Ellis; Gordon James; Paula Speirs; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Jason Leitch; DG Health & Social Care; Richard Foggo; Christine McLaughlin; Douglas McLaren

**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

**Subject:** RE: Policy views: Media query - PA - Cons NR - NHS Recovery Plan

Hi [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Suggested lines below, this is probably too long but I hope these are helpful, give me a buzz back if you need anything more.

[redacted: s.30(b)(i)]

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Head of Planned Care Policy

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### ITEM 4

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 01 April 2023 14:53

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; John Burns; Richard McCallum; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Deputy Director Health and Social Care; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; HSC Waiting Times Policy; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Linda Pollock; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Chief Medical Officer; Graham Ellis; Gordon James; Paula Speirs; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Jason Leitch; DG Health & Social Care; Richard Foggo; Christine McLaughlin; Douglas McLaren

**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care



**Subject:** RE: Policy views: Media query - PA - Cons NR - NHS Recovery Plan

**Importance:** High

Adding Richard Foggo and Christine McLaughlin.

Richard/Christine – I've not been able to get in contact with the on call official

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

Grateful if the below lines in response to this Conservative news release can be reviewed please.

Thanks,

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

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#### ITEM 5

**From:** **[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

**Sent:** 01 April 2023 14:22

**To:** **[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];**  
**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];** John Burns; Richard McCallum; **[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];**  
**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];** Deputy Director Health and Social Care; **[redacted: s.38(1)(b)];** HSC Waiting Times Policy; **[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];** Linda Pollock; **[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];**  
**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];** Chief Medical Officer; Graham Ellis; Gordon James; Paula Speirs; **[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];** Jason Leitch; DG Health & Social Care; Richard Foggo; Christine McLaughlin; Douglas McLaren

**Cc:** **[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];** Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

**Subject:** RE: Policy views: Media query - PA - Cons NR - NHS Recovery Plan

Tweaking lines as below. Please use this version.

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#### ITEM 6

**From:** **[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

**Sent:** 01 April 2023 13:51

**To:** **[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];**  
**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)];** John Burns; Richard McCallum; **[redacted: s.38(1)(b)];**  
**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];**

**Cc:** **[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];** Communications Health & Social Care

**Subject:** Policy views: Media query - PA - Cons NR - NHS Recovery Plan

Officials,

We've received a media query from PA, they are looking for a response to the below Conservative NR, which is calling for Mr Matheson to "rip up Humza Yousaf's flimsy" NHS recovery plan. The main focus of the release is on waiting times.

I am attaching some previous lines below as a starter for ten. Grateful if officials could review please, these lines may need to be strengthened.

Thanks,

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

**PREVIOUS LINES**

Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care Michael Matheson said:

[redacted: s.25(1)] publication is available here: <https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-16481>

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[redacted: s.30(b)(i)]

#### ITEM 7

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**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 01 April 2023 12:55

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** Comment request - PA - FW: EXTERNAL:- SUNDAY EMBARGO: New health secretary must "rip up Humza Yousaf's flimsy" NHS recovery plan

Hi [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Wondering if you have lines on this as well please?

Thanks,

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

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#### ITEM 8

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 31 March 2023 12:04

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** EXTERNAL:- SUNDAY EMBARGO: New health secretary must "rip up Humza Yousaf's flimsy" NHS recovery plan

## **New health secretary must "rip up Humza Yousaf's flimsy" NHS recovery plan**

**Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party press office**

**Friday 31 March 2023**

**FAO: all newsdesks**

**Embargo: 00.01am Sunday 2 April 2023**

The new SNP NHS recovery, health and social care secretary Michael Matheson must "rip up" up Humza Yousaf's flimsy recovery plan, the Scottish Conservatives have said today.

Shadow health secretary Dr Sandesh Gulhane says the addition of 'NHS Recovery' to the cabinet position is an admission by the now First Minister that his plan produced in August 2021, completely failed to remobilise frontline services in Scotland's NHS.

Dr Gulhane – who is also a GP – says Humza Yousaf was the worst health secretary since devolution and suffering patients and burnt out staff can ill-afford further failure under his replacement.

Since Humza Yousaf's plan was produced following the 2021 election, A&E waiting times hit record lows in December 2022 with only 55.1% of patients being seen within the SNP's four-hour target time.

Delayed discharge levels also hit record highs in November 2022, with almost 2,000 beds taken up by patients that were fit and healthy enough to go home.

The new First Minister also oversaw over a quarter of cancer patients not being treated within two months, while he left for Bute House with one in seven Scots on a NHS waiting list.

Dr Gulhane has urged Michael Matheson – who was previously a Public Health Minister for three years – to look at the Scottish Conservatives’ “real” NHS Recovery Plans, outlined in December 2022, and implement them to finally ease the pressure on the health service.

The Scottish Conservatives’ winter recovery plan included:

- **Introducing new crisis maximum waiting times.** This would set a floor that patients could expect to wait for treatment during winter and would be backed up by sanctions on health boards who breach these targets.
- **Running ‘Super Saturdays’ to make better use of facilities and clear backlogs.** Health boards would choose a single type of treatment or operation to be exclusively carried out that day.
- **Set up a winter network of mobile testing and drive-through facilities.** This would set up Covid testing-style units for CT scans, blood tests and Electrocardiograms (ECGs).
- **Introduce an NHS Care App to allow patients to see live hospital waiting times.** This would allow patients to help the NHS manage demand and see where they are in the queue for operations.
- **Introduce a full Electronic Repeat Prescription system.** This would effectively copy current prescriptions without the need for sign-off again.
- **Introduce ‘Prehab’ for those awaiting treatment.** That means giving patients information and support to live as healthy a lifestyle as possible, so that they are fit enough for treatment to be carried out.
- **Roll out and expand Reach teams across all health boards.** This would help elderly individuals to avoid having to return to hospital.

Dr Gulhane says suffering patients and his colleagues on the frontline “cannot take any more” and need to see an urgent upturn in leadership under Michael Matheson.

**Scottish Conservative shadow health secretary Dr Sandesh Gulhane MSP, said:** “In a rare act of self-awareness, Humza Yousaf, by adding NHS Recovery to a cabinet title, made a frank admission that his flimsy NHS Recovery plan has completely failed over the last 18 months to remobilise our health service.

“The now First Minister was the worst health secretary since devolution and suffering patients and my dedicated colleagues paid the price for his total inaction.

“A&E waiting times, delayed discharge levels and cancer waiting times all hit the worst levels on record, on Humza Yousaf’s watch. He departed for Bute House leaving one in seven Scots languishing on an NHS waiting list.

“Michael Matheson must rip up his predecessor’s flimsy pamphlet and hit the reset button. The new cabinet secretary for NHS recovery, health and social care should start by looking at the recovery plans produced by my party in December.

“Humza Yousaf dismissed them out of hand, but that recovery plan is full of proposals that could ease the pressure on our health service right now.

“Suffering patients and burnt out staff cannot take any more. They need to see Michael Matheson hit the ground running.

“I am keen to visit the frontline with him myself – in his own Forth Valley area, which has been among the worst performing health boards in recent years – to see the challenges facing him in his in-tray and how he must act on them now.”

**Notes: The Scottish Conservatives NHS Recovery Plan from December 2022 is attached.**

## **ENDS**

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### **ITEM 9**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)] On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

**Sent:** Saturday, April 1, 2023 4:11 PM

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport; Minister for Public Health & Women's Health; Minister for Drugs & Alcohol Policy

**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; John Burns; Richard McCallum; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Deputy Director Health and Social Care; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; HSC Waiting Times Policy; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Linda Pollock; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Chief Medical Officer; Graham Ellis; Gordon James; Paula Speirs; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Jason Leitch; DG Health & Social Care; Richard Foggo; Christine McLaughlin; Douglas McLaren; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

**Subject:** RE: FOR CLEARANCE: Media query - PA - Cons NR - NHS Recovery Plan

Good afternoon [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Many thanks for this – Mr Matheson is unable to clear, so would appreciate these going on SpAd clearance.

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

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### **ITEM 10**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 01 April 2023 15:59

**To:** Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport; Minister for Public Health & Women's Health; Minister for Drugs & Alcohol Policy

**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; John Burns; Richard McCallum; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Deputy Director Health and Social Care; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; HSC Waiting Times Policy; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Linda Pollock; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Chief Medical Officer; Graham Ellis; Gordon James; Paula Speirs; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Jason Leitch; DG Health & Social Care; Richard Foggo; Christine McLaughlin; Douglas McLaren; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care  
**Subject: FOR CLEARANCE: Media query - PA - Cons NR - NHS Recovery Plan PO/Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care,**

CC: Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport,  
Minister for Public Health & Women's Health,  
Minister for Drugs & Alcohol Policy,

We've received a media query from PA and the Express, they are looking for a response to the below embargoed Conservative NR, which is calling for Mr Matheson to "rip up Humza Yousaf's flimsy" NHS recovery plan. The main focus of the release is on waiting times.

[redacted: s.30(b)(i)]

Grateful for Mr Matheson's clearance please.

Thanks,

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

[redacted: s.30(b)(i)]

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**FOI case: 202300361915: Conservatives Winter Plan 2022/23: Plan Care 3 response**

**ITEM 1**

**From:** : [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2022 9:10 AM  
**To:** : [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Cc:** : [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

Hi [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Here is what I suggest to cover top bullet, sorry I know it's more than a few lines!

- The 18 weeks Referral to Treatment (RTT) standard is one of a number of targets set by the Scottish Government for access to hospital services.

[redacted: s.30(b)(ii)]

- Pausing of non-urgent activity throughout the pandemic has inevitably led to a build-up of both the number of patients waiting for treatment as well as increasing the length of wait for patients.

[redacted: s.30(b)(ii)]

Thanks,

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

[Team Leader – Waiting Times Guidance | Directorate for Chief Operating Officer, NHS Scotland | The Scottish Government](#)

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**ITEM 2**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Sent:** 12 December 2022 17:31  
**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

Just checked and can confirm it is planned care and not A&E.

Thanks

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

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**ITEM 3**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Sent:** 12 December 2022 17:01  
**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

Oh yeah, good point. What do you think, [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

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**ITEM 4**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 12 December 2022 16:54

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

Hi [redacted: s.38(1)(b)],

[redacted: s.30(b)(ii)]

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Team Leader – Waiting Times Guidance | Directorate for Chief Operating Officer, NHS Scotland | The Scottish Government

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#### ITEM 5

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** FW: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

**Importance:** High

Hi

[redacted: s.30(b)(ii)]

Happy to collate if you want to send responses back to me.

Thanks

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Team Leader – Planned Care Policy & Performance | Directorate for Chief Operating Officer, NHS Scotland | Scottish Government

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#### ITEM 6

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 12 December 2022 16:07

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; Deputy Director of Health Workforce; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)];

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; HB Daily Reports; Health EPRR; Health Performance

and Delivery: Business Management Unit ; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; ; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Maitland H (Helen); [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:

s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:  
s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:  
s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:  
s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:  
s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:  
s.38(1)(b)]; Winter Planning Team Mailbox; Workforce Analysis (HSC);  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:  
s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Health Performance and Delivery: Business  
Management Unit; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:  
s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted:  
s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Whoriskey  
M (Margaret)  
Cc: Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
Subject: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

Colleagues

With thanks for your continued help on the NHS Overview FMQ, please see below a  
commission for lines relating to the Conservative's NHS Recovery Plan [\[Scotland's  
REAL NHS winter recovery plan - Scottish Conservatives\]](#).

## Commission

[REDACTED: (section 30(b)(ii)]

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Senior Manager, Strategic Briefing and Insights Unit  
Directorate for Health Finance, Corporate Governance, and Value  
Scottish Government

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## ITEM 7

From: [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 10:57 AM

To: [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission  
- Tuesday

Hi [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

[REDACTED: (section 30(b)(i)]

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**ITEM 8****From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**Sent:** 14 December 2022 10:54**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission  
- Tuesday

[REDACTED: (section 30(b)(i))]

Best wishes,

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

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**ITEM 9****From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**Sent:** 14 December 2022 08:17**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission  
- Tuesday

Morning,

Please see below re: super Saturdays. Copying [redacted: s.38(1)(b)] for sight.

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Deputy Team Leader - Planned Care Policy & Performance | Directorate for Chief  
Operating Officer

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**ITEM 10****From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**Sent:** 13 December 2022 18:36**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission  
- Tuesday

See answers below.

Regards,

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

[Whole System Intelligence Analysis – Acute | Directorate for COO, NHS Scotland | DG Health & Social Care](#)

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**ITEM 11****From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**Sent:** 13 December 2022 18:21**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission  
- Tuesday

Hi

Copying in analysts on first three asks. We'll come back to you on the others by tomorrow's deadline.

Thanks

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

Team Leader – Planned Care Policy & Performance | Directorate for Chief Operating Officer, NHS Scotland | Scottish Government

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#### ITEM 12

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 13 December 2022 17:28

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission  
- Tuesday

Hi [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Further to the information you sent across earlier today, feedback has been received from the FMQ team. As such, I would grateful for further information on the following asks below by 1130 tomorrow please?

**[REDACTED: (section 30(b)(ii))]**

Best wishes,

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

Senior Manager, Strategic Briefing and Insights Unit  
[Directorate for Health Finance, Corporate Governance, and Value](#)  
[Scottish Government](#)

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#### ITEM 13

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 13 December 2022 12:37

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission  
- Tuesday

Hi [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Please see below from planned care.

Thanks

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

Team Leader – Planned Care Policy & Performance | Directorate for Chief Operating Officer, NHS Scotland | Scottish Government

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#### ITEM 14

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2022 11:01 AM

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission  
- Tuesday

Hi

Responses below.

[REDACTED: (section 30(b)(ii))]

Thanks

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Team Leader – Planned Care Policy & Performance | Directorate for Chief Operating Officer, NHS Scotland | Scottish  
Government

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#### ITEM 15

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 13 December 2022 18:21

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission  
- Tuesday

Hi

Copying in analysts on first three asks. We'll come back to you on the others by  
tomorrow's deadline.

Thanks

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Team Leader – Planned Care Policy & Performance | Directorate for Chief Operating Officer, NHS Scotland | Scottish  
Government

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#### ITEM 16

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 13 December 2022 17:28

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)];  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission  
- Tuesday

Hi [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Further to the information you sent across earlier today, feedback has been received  
from the FMQ team. As such, I would be grateful for further information on the following  
asks below by 1130 tomorrow please?

[REDACTED: (section 30(b)(ii))]

Best wishes,

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Senior Manager, Strategic Briefing and Insights Unit

Directorate for Health Finance, Corporate Governance, and Value  
Scottish Government



Cc: Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Subject: For action - Lines on Primary Care Funding - FMQ - Midday deadline

Colleagues,

The Conservative Health Spokesperson Sandesh Gulhane has today said in the Daily Mail that his party would, in an alternative plan, spend 11% of NHS spending on Primary Care (cutting attached).

[REDACTED: (section 30(b)(ii))

These would be added to the already existing lines on the Conservative Plan (added below for your information)

### **FMQ lines on Conservative plan**

**These uncosted proposals are not innovative. We must recognise the enormous impact the pandemic has had on our health service, with the pausing of all non-emergency treatment inevitably leading to planned care delays and an increase in waiting times.**

**Our health funding is facing the triple challenge of pressure from Covid, the impact of Brexit, and the disastrous UK Government handling of the economy.**

- Despite the UK Government stepping back from Covid consequentials, the impact of Covid continues to place significant operational and financial pressure on the NHS.
- There are general inflationary pressures of £100m on health and social care facilities for energy costs – which requires meaningful action from the UK Government to address the energy crisis.
- Against this backdrop, I note that nothing has been said about how these proposals would be funded.

**While Scotland's A&E performance continues to be the best of all four UK nations, our performance is not where we want it to be.**

- Pressures on A&E are driven in large part by delays in discharge elsewhere in hospitals, which is why a focus of our winter plan is on social care and actions to encourage integration authorities to help alleviate delays.
- Four National Treatment Centres will provide 8 additional orthopaedic theatres, initially providing over 12,250 additional procedures, dependent on workforce and NHS 'Near Me is widely used for health and care appointments with around 20,000 consultations being held every week.

**SUPER SATURDAYS - are not a new concept - in Scotland, Boards already provide this kind of service, both in person and virtually.**

**WAITING LIST INITIATIVES - such as additional weekend sessions, over and above the standard provision, are already used throughout NHS Scotland.**

- Weekend theatres are already running across Boards, including outpatient clinics and weekend cataract sessions at the NHS Golden Jubilee.
- The 18 weeks Referral to Treatment standard and the 12 week Treatment Time Guarantee are two of a number of targets set for access to hospital services.

**INCREASING DAY SURGERY PROCEDURES – for specific specialities is already being progressed.**

- The Centre for Sustainable Delivery will enable us to see 140,000 new outpatients each year, an increase of 55,500 procedures per year by the end of this plan - a 20% increase over pre-Covid levels.
- Specialty Delivery Groups have been set up to drive opportunities across regions on same day surgery, for example in gynaecology pathways.
- Significant progress is also being made in the delivery of same-day discharge arthroplasty, allowing patients to be safely discharged home on the same day as their procedure, increasing capacity within Orthopaedics.

**OFF-PEAK SCANNING - Boards are working hard to reduce diagnostics waiting times, including operating evening and weekend sessions where staffing allows.**

- We have funded seven MRI and five CT scanners, providing additional scanning capacity over seven days per week and capacity for 12,000 additional procedures per year.
- We have delivered additional virtual capacity through four priority pathways: Hospital at Home; Respiratory Rapid Response Pathway; Out-patient Parental Antibiotic Therapy (OPAT); and Covid Remote Health Monitoring.
- Hospital at Home is now available in 20 out of the 31 Integration Authorities (11 out of 14 territorial Health Boards), an increase from 7 prior to funding issued in 2020/21.
- The OPAT pathway has already saved 45,000 hospital bed days this year and is being further rolled out across Scotland over the coming months.

**NHS CARE APP - The NHS inform website currently shows information on waiting times for planned care.**

- Further evaluation is required before we can consider additional metrics that can be included on the website.
- The new NHS 24 online app has a symptom checker and can also direct people to planned care waiting times information held on NHS inform.

**LONG COVID CLINICS - All NHS boards are already providing assessment and support for people with long COVID, delivered across the full range of services provided by our NHS.**

- We've made an initial £3m available from our £10m long COVID Support Fund to provide NHS boards with additional resource to deliver the best local models of care for assessment, diagnostic tests, and support.
- The remainder of the fund will be allocated over the financial years 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26.

**DIGITAL PRESCRIPTIONS - The Digital Prescribing and Dispensing Pathways Programme will focus on replacing the paper prescription with a digital solution in community settings.**

- Implementation for in-practice prescribing and dispensing is scheduled to begin in 2024 and is co-led by NHS NES and NSS.
- We acknowledge that due to the multi-supplier framework environment and the number of legacy systems in place across Scotland we have not been able to Digitally transform our services at the pace we would have liked.
- The 2021 Digital Health & Care Strategy sets out how we will improve access to data and digital technologies.

**PREHAB - Our Rehabilitation and Recovery strategy (June 2022) supports rehabilitation activity to be offered earlier to individuals to optimise opportunities for early intervention and for prehabilitation.**

- Our website ([www.prehab.nhs.scot](http://www.prehab.nhs.scot)) enables easy access to support on all prehabilitation domains and a pilot at Maggie's has helped more than 1000 people to access face-to-face cancer support over the past year.

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Senior Strategic Briefing Manager | Strategic Briefing Unit for Health | Scottish Government

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**ITEM 4**

From: [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]



Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 12:02 PM  
**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Strategic Briefing Unit for Health  
**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Hutchison D (David); FMPU : FMQ Team; First Minister FMQs;  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Subject:** RE: Overview FMQ - 2pm

Hi [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Please see a revised NHS Overview, with the lines on the Conservative alternative plan included – we have added additional lines to that section on Primary Care spend to address the article's 11% pledge [ref. ITEM 3].

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

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## ITEM 5

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 11:35 AM  
**To:** Strategic Briefing Unit for Health; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox; First Minister FMQs; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Cc:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Hutchison D (David); [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ 6 June

Hi [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Please see the updated Overview [ref. ITEM 3], with the Recovery section added, which has been checked by policy ([redacted: s.38(1)(b)] copied for awareness).

Best wishes,  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

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## ITEM 6

**From:** Philip Miller  
Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 1:24 PM  
**To:** Christopher Johnson <[Christopher.Johnson@gov.scot](mailto:Christopher.Johnson@gov.scot)>; Rosie McKerron <[Rosie.McKerron@gov.scot](mailto:Rosie.McKerron@gov.scot)>; ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox <[ETFMQPQ@gov.scot](mailto:ETFMQPQ@gov.scot)>; Madeleine Fleming <[Madeleine.Fleming@gov.scot](mailto:Madeleine.Fleming@gov.scot)>  
**Cc:** Strategic Briefing Unit for Health <[SBUHealth@gov.scot](mailto:SBUHealth@gov.scot)>; Aislinn Ní Ghráinne <[Aislinn.NiGhrainne@gov.scot](mailto:Aislinn.NiGhrainne@gov.scot)>; Katie Turbitt <[Katie.Turbitt@gov.scot](mailto:Katie.Turbitt@gov.scot)>; Saira Kapasi <[Saira.Kapasi@gov.scot](mailto:Saira.Kapasi@gov.scot)>  
**Subject:** NHS Overview 13 June

Hi Chris,

Please see an updated NHS Overview [ref. ITEM 3].

It includes updated statistics and lines throughout as well as:

[OUT OF SCOPE]  
*P12 - Conservative Recovery Plan*  
[OUT OF SCOPE]

Best wishes,  
[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]



**[REDACTED: (section 30(b)(ii)]**

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

Senior Manager, Strategic Briefing and Insights Unit  
Directorate for Health Finance, Corporate Governance, and Value  
Scottish Government

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## ITEM 2

**From: [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

**Sent:** 12 December 2022 16:38

**To: [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

**Cc: [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

**Subject:** RE: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

Hi **[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**,

**[REDACTED: (section 30(b)(ii)]**

The deadline is 11:30 am tomorrow so any help you can provide is appreciated.

Thanks,

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

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## ITEM 3

**From: [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

**Sent:** 13 December 2022 08:20

**To: [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**

**Cc:** Whoriskey M (Margaret)>; Digital Health and Care Policy Hub

**Subject:** URGENT FW: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

Urgent – by 11:30am today.

See the below request for information on the Conservatives recommendation for “Introduce an NHS Care App to allow patients to see live hospital waiting times. This would allow patients to help the NHS manage demand and see where they are in the queue for operations”.

There’s also a recommendation to develop an electronic repeat prescription system as well.

**[REDACTED: (section 30(b)(ii)]**

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

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**ITEM 4**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 13 December 2022 09:48

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** Digital Health and Care Policy Hub; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: URGENT FW: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

Hi [redacted: s.38(1)(b)] – we have been asked to contribute to the FMQ below and specifically on “ *Introduce an NHS Care App to allow patients to see live hospital waiting times. This would allow patients to help the NHS manage demand and see where they are in the queue for operations*”

**[REDACTED: (section 30(b)(ii))]**

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Policy Lead & Team Leader

Digital Health & Care Policy Hub

Directorate for Digital Health & Care

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**ITEM 5**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2022 10:31 AM

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** Digital Health and Care Policy Hub; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: URGENT FW: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

Morning [redacted: s.38(1)(b)],

This looks good to me.

Kind regards,

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Policy Support Manager | Planned Care Policy & Performance | Elective and  
Unscheduled Care Team | Scottish Government

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**ITEM 6**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Sent:** 13 December 2022 11:34  
**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Cc:** Digital Health and Care Policy Hub; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Whoriskey M (Margaret); [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT FW: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)] – please find the reply from DHAC covering two recommendations. **[OUT OF SCOPE]**

**[REDACTED: (section 30(b)(ii))]**

Kind regards

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
Policy Lead & Team Leader  
Digital Health & Care Policy Hub  
Directorate for Digital Health & Care  
Scottish Government

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#### ITEM 7

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Sent:** 13 December 2022 11:07  
**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT FW: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

Thanks, have we picked up on the electronic prescribing point as well, which has gone to primary care?

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

*Head of Strategy & Policy  
Digital Health & Care*

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#### ITEM 8

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2022 11:13 AM  
**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT FW: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

Just emailed about that

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**  
Policy Lead & Team Leader  
Digital Health & Care Policy Hub  
Directorate for Digital Health & Care  
Scottish Government

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## ITEM 9

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Sent:** 13 December 2022 17:16  
**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Cc:** Digital Health and Care Policy Hub; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Whoriskey M (Margaret); [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT FW: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

All,  
Further to the information you sent across this morning, I'd be grateful for further information on the asks below by 1130 tomorrow please?

**[REDACTED: (section 30(b)(ii))]**

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**  
Senior Manager, Strategic Briefing and Insights Unit  
[Directorate for Health Finance, Corporate Governance, and Value](#)  
[Scottish Government](#)

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## ITEM 10

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Sent:** 14 December 2022 11:29  
**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Cc:** Digital Health and Care Policy Hub; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Whoriskey M (Margaret); [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT FW: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

Hi [redacted: s.38(1)(b)] – we have updated the lines following your further request.

**[REDACTED: (section 30(b)(ii))]**

Kind regards

**[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]**  
Policy Lead & Team Leader  
Digital Health & Care Policy Hub

**ITEM 11**

**From:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2022 11:36 AM

**To:** [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** Digital Health and Care Policy Hub; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; Whoriskey M (Margaret); [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: URGENT FW: NHS Overview FMQ - Conservative NHS Recovery Plan - Commission - Tuesday

Helpful thankyou [redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Best wishes

[redacted: s.38(1)(b)]

Senior Manager, Strategic Briefing and Insights Unit

Directorate for Health Finance, Corporate Governance, and Value  
Scottish Government