

**RG1**

**From:** [Redacted s.38(1)(b)]  
**On Behalf Of** Greer R (Ross), MSP  
**Sent:** Friday, October 11, 2024 5:33 PM  
**To:** First Minister <[firstminister@gov.scot](mailto:firstminister@gov.scot)>

**Subject:** Letter from Ross Greer MSP

Hi there,  
Please see attached a letter to the First Minister from Ross Greer MSP.

Thanks,  
[Redacted s.38(1)(b)]

Ross Greer MSP  
**Scottish Green Party**  
e: [Redacted s.38(1)(b)]

John Swinney MSP  
First Minister  
By Email  
**11th October 2024**  
**Donald Trump Unexplained Wealth Order**

Dear John,

At First Minister's Questions on June 27th I asked if you could provide an update on whether an Unexplained Wealth Order is being sought regarding Donald Trump's Scottish business activities.

As you are aware, earlier this year, Mr Trump was found guilty on 34 counts related to the falsification of business records by the New York State Supreme Court. The judge presiding over this case ruled that he and his company are liable for the "false valuation" of his golf course in Aberdeenshire.

Under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, Ministers may apply for an Unexplained Wealth Order to investigate Trump's activities in Scotland, but for years the Scottish Government has said that it can neither confirm nor deny whether Trump is under investigation.

In your answer on the 27th June, you committed to exploring the issue in further detail and writing to me with an update. I appreciate the constraints on what can be shared, but I have not received any correspondence from your office.

Faith in our justice system is at risk by the appearance of inaction in the face of potentially serious criminal activity by a rich and powerful individual. For that reason,

and given the recent announcement that Mr Trump is opening another golf course in Scotland, I would welcome an update from you on this issue as soon as possible.

Best wishes,

**Ross Greer MSP for the West of Scotland**  
**Scottish Green Party**

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0141 956 2778 | [ross.greer.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:ross.greer.msp@parliament.scot)

RG2

Rt Hon John Swinney MSP  
An Fhìor Urr John Swinney BPA  
First Minister of Scotland  
Am Prìomh Mhinistear



St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG  
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Ross Greer MSP  
[ross.greer.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:ross.greer.msp@parliament.scot)

Our Reference: 202400436556

31 October 2024

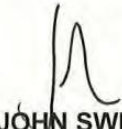
Dear Ross,

Thank you for your letter of 11 October around whether an Unexplained Wealth Order will be sought against Donald Trump.

At First Minister's Questions on 27 June you referred to a letter sent from Patrick Harvie on 25 June. In my response to you I said I would explore if anything further could be said in addition to what I placed on the public record that day, and that if there was anything I would write to you.

There was nothing further I could add to my response that day or from what I said in my response of 5 August to Patrick Harvie. I have attached a copy that response for your information.

I trust this explains the position.

Yours,  
  
JOHN SWINNEY

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

Tha Ministearan na h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus an Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

**RG3**

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

**Sent:** Monday, October 14, 2024 1:55 PM

**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <[CabSecES2024@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecES2024@gov.scot)>

**Subject:** Letter from Ross Greer MSP

Dear Cabinet Secretary,  
Please see the attached letter from Ross Greer MSP

[Redacted s.38(1)(b)]

Jenny Gilruth,  
Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills  
By Email  
**14th October 2024**  
**Milngavie Primary School**

Dear Jenny,

I have been contacted by a large number of parents and carers of children attending Milngavie Primary regarding the unacceptable condition of the school building.

You may already be aware of these concerns, but it's alarming to hear of, for example, significant mould in the school, mushrooms growing in the toilets and holes in the roof. The Parent Council have received several reports of incidents such as P1 children coming home from school wet due to the leaking roof, children refusing to wear shorts as they have had their legs burned on scalding pipes, and families who are deeply concerned about the immediate and long-term health effects of continued mould exposure. I have been told that in recent days a roof panel above a teacher's desk dislodged. Thankfully the teacher was not sitting down at that point or the consequences could have been serious.

This situation has been getting worse for some time. East Dunbartonshire Council had comprehensive and well considered plans to address it through a refurbishment programme, but this programme has now been paused for financial reasons.

I've asked the Council to meet with me to discuss their current assessment of the school's condition, next steps on refurbishment and if any work has been undertaken to reprioritise within the capital budget.

As we have discussed on a number of previous occasions, the UK Government's decision to cut Scotland's capital budget by a staggering 20% is already having a significant impact on our schools. Having been involved in government budget setting over recent years, I am not asking you to simply find money which I know does not exist, but I am sure you will agree that this situation urgently requires a solution.

Therefore, I am writing to ask that you engage with the Council to identify steps which can be taken to address the most immediate concerns whilst discussions take place

on a long-term solution. I am firmly of the view that a thorough refurbishment programme is required as soon as possible.

I have informed the Council that I am keen to contribute towards the exploration of options to secure the necessary funding and would be grateful to be involved in your own discussions with them.

Finally, recognising the pressures on your diary I would invite you to join me on an inspection of the school building in the coming weeks. If this is not possible, I am happy to pass on the photo and video evidence provided to me by parents and carers.

Best wishes,  
Ross Greer MSP

**RG4**

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

**Sent:** Monday, August 5, 2024 6:24 PM

**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands

[<cabsecralri@gov.scot>](mailto:cabsecralri@gov.scot)

**Subject:** Letter from Ross Greer MSP

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

Please see attached a letter from Ross Greer MSP.

We look forward to your response.

[Redacted s.38(1)(b)]

**Ross Greer MSP for the West of Scotland Scottish Green Party** Unit 4, 38

Stewart Street, Milngavie G62 6BY 0141 956 2778 |

ross.greer.msp@parliament.scot

Mairi Gougeon MSP

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands

By Email

**5th August 2024**

Dear Mairi,

**Consideration of the Flamingo Land application by Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park**

As you may be aware, a highly controversial planning application in my region is currently under consideration by Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park.

While I accept and respect the fact that as a Scottish Minister you cannot comment on the content of the application, I am writing to request that you exercise your statutory role as the accountable Minister to intervene on a procedural matter.

To give relevant background, the application, 2022/0157/PPP, is for a large leisure development with 104 woodland lodges, two hotels, a waterpark, monorail, 372 car parking spaces, shops and more. This mega-resort would be built on the banks of Loch Lomond at Balloch.

The application has drawn a record 138,000 objections thus far, as well as organisational objections from the local community council (Balloch and Haldane), the National Trust for Scotland, Ramblers Scotland and Woodland Trust Scotland. It is also subject to a holding objection from SEPA on grounds of flood risk.

This is clearly not a routine planning application. It is significant in terms of scale, public interest and its location within a National Park.

After a long period of consultation, extended due to a number of changes and resubmissions by the applicants, the National Park recently announced that the

application would be determined at a Special Board Meeting on Monday 16th September. This will be immediately preceded by a site visit and a public hearing. However, the Park Authority has not agreed any changes to their standing orders. Notably, this means that there will be a total of just 10 minutes for objectors to make the case against the application. This would in practice give five minutes to the community council plus another five minutes for one or two other people. That amounts to 0.002 seconds for every individual objector before factoring respected organisations such as the Woodland Trust, who will be denied the opportunity to contribute.

I hope you will agree that, whilst there may often be good reason to keep objections at public hearings succinct, to limit hundreds of thousands of objectors and a number of organisations to five minutes between us would be unjust and would undermine the credibility of the process.

The scale of the application and range of issues to consider (my own objections - submitted on my behalf by environmental law consultant Ian Cowan - come to a total of 65 pages) make clear the need to give adequate time for both supporters and objectors to lay out our cases. This was recognised at the hearing scheduled in 2019 for Flamingo Land's first application, which was organised to allow adequate time for the volume and breadth of objections to be reflected.

I also wish to highlight that Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park is the only planning authority in Great Britain where members of the board cannot be directly contacted by the public in advance of the meeting. I have previously raised this with the National Park and with the Scottish Government.

This raises the prospect of objectors and local residents being unable to directly contact those who represent them on the board in the critical period between publication of the Planning Officer's Report and the board meeting.

As you'll be aware, the Scottish Ministers have the power under Section 16(1) of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000 to give LLTNPA directions which must be complied with. While I support the Scottish Government's typical 'light touch' approach to Park governance, I believe it is your responsibility to intervene where necessary to ensure Parks properly fulfil their core obligations. In this case, I believe that Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park is failing in its responsibilities as a planning authority to facilitate public and stakeholder involvement in the process. Therefore, I believe that ministerial intervention is required to ensure a meeting format which allows for adequate participation from all involved parties.

I would like to note that the National Park have in many ways dealt incredibly well with this application, despite the challenges presented by the unprecedented levels of public interest and the complexity of the proposal. This letter is not intended as criticism, but I cannot stand by and allow a process to play out which I believe would fatally undermine the legitimacy of the National Park in the eyes of the public, particularly those who live within its boundaries.

I look forward to hearing your response to this urgent matter as soon as possible.

Best wishes,  
Ross Greer MSP



**RG5**

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands  
Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Chùisean Dùthchail, Athleasachadh Fearainn agus  
Eileanan  
Mairi Gougeon MSP/BPA

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Ross Greer MSP  
[Redacted s.38(1)(b)]

Our Reference: 202400425566  
Your Reference: Flamingo Land application

28 August 2024

Dear Ross,

Thank you for your letter of 5th August 2024 concerning the Lomond Banks Planning application which is being considered by Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority.

As you rightly set out in your letter, Scottish Ministers cannot comment on live planning applications, and it is important that we allow planners to follow the process.

In a recent announcement by the Park, it has been highlighted that individuals who have made formal comments on the application will be given details of how they can request to speak at the public hearing, and this will be published closer to the time of the hearing. I understand Gordon Watson, CEO of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park, also responded to you on this matter.

I trust this response addresses the concerns you raised.

Yours sincerely,  
MAIRI GOUGEON

## RG6

Minister for Public Health and Women's Health  
Ministear airson Slàinte Phoblach is Slàinte Bhoireannach  
Jenni Minto MSP/BPA  
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Ross Greer MSP  
[ross.greer.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:ross.greer.msp@parliament.scot)

Our Reference: 202400406425  
Your Reference: (Case Ref: RG1169)

21 May 2024

Dear Ross,

Thank you for your email of 20 March to the Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care, on behalf of your constituent, regarding the availability of medicines licensed for the management of epilepsy, and specifically of Carbamazepine (Tegretol®). As the Minister responsible for pharmacy policy, I have been asked to reply.

I am sorry to hear that your constituent is experiencing difficulties in obtaining their daughter's prescribed medication. I fully understand the frustration and anxiety this is causing to them both and their family.

It may be helpful if I begin by explaining that medicine shortages can arise for various reasons, such as difficulties with manufacturing or with the supply of raw materials. Occasionally, sudden changes in prescribing practice, particularly if implemented across several regions or indeed globally, can also cause supply problems.

Despite this, the NHS in Scotland has robust processes in place to manage supply issues when they do arise. Normally there are alternative products which can be prescribed and dispensed.

The supply of medicines and the associated legislation are a reserved matter for the UK Government. Scottish Government officials are regularly updated on any supply disruptions and will provide advice to NHS Scotland on options to address any shortages that may arise.

Your constituent may be interested to note that the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer (CPO) for Scotland is a member of a UK-wide Medicines Shortage Response Group (MSRG), set up to identify and co-ordinate responses to medicines shortages across the UK providing advice to clinicians on alternative therapeutic options.

The Scottish Government is aware that there have been ongoing supply disruptions with several medicines across the UK, this also includes medicines for the management of epilepsy. My officials have informed me that both the generic and branded versions of Carbamazepine 100mg and 200mg tablets have experienced supply issues recently. The generic versions of Carbamazepine 100mg and 200mg tablets are being manufactured by different manufacturers, while the branded version, named Tegretol® is manufactured by Novartis. Generic medicines are those which contain the same active ingredients as the branded version, but can be manufactured by more than one company because the original manufacturer's patent has expired.

At present, market data and information provided by the UK Government indicates that the supply issues with the availability of the generic versions of carbamazepine tablets will continue until the middle of June 2024. However, we are aware that the supply issue with the availability of the branded products of carbamazepine, Tegretol® 100mg and 200mg tablets, has now been resolved. Community pharmacies should now be able to order supplies of Tegretol® tablets from their regular wholesalers.

It is important to highlight that prescribers and pharmacists also have access to a tracking tool which provides advice on each shortage, including alternative equivalent treatment options. This medicine supply tool can be accessed via the Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) website, where information on supply issues are collated by the UK Government's medicines supply team at the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).

For patients prescribed the generic carbamazepine 100mg and 200mg tablets and who have insufficient supplies to last them until the re-supply date, healthcare professionals are advised to:

- prescribe generic carbamazepine 100mg or 200mg tablets from another manufacturer reserving available supplies for patients who usually receive generic carbamazepine 100mg and 200mg tablets.

If the above options are not considered appropriate, prescribers are advised to seek advice from specialists on alternative management options. In addition, patients receiving carbamazepine tablets from a different manufacturer should be advised that this switch is necessary to maintain treatment with the same drug at the same dose, and to seek advice if they experience loss of seizure control and/or adverse effects after switching.

I would like to reassure you that I fully appreciate the impact that these global shortages are having on people living with epilepsy and their families. For anyone who experiences difficulties in obtaining their child's prescribed medication, my advice is to discuss this with the child's GP or specialist, who should be able to review the child's circumstances and prescribe an alternative treatment if appropriate until stock supplies are stabilised. It is for NHS Boards and healthcare professionals to determine how best to treat patients, including any medications that they are prescribed.

I hope this reply is helpful and explains to you and your constituent the current situation.

Yours sincerely,  
JENNI MINTO

**RG7**

Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills  
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Jenny Gilruth MSP/BPA  
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Ross Greer MSP  
[Redacted s.38(1)(b)]

Our Reference: 202400436494

21 November 2024

Dear Ross,

Thank you for your letter of 14th October about the condition Milngavie Primary School. The Scottish Government takes the issues you raise very seriously, and we expect local authorities to provide a safe environment for all school users. Therefore, my officials continue to closely engage with East Dunbartonshire Council regarding this important matter.

I would welcome the opportunity to visit the school, subject to other ministerial and parliamentary commitments.

Yours sincerely,  
JENNY GILRUTH