



Tayside NHS Board  
Ninewells Hospital & Medical School  
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Ned Sharratt  
Assistant Clerk  
Public Petitions Committee  
Public Petitions Clerks  
Room T3.40  
The Scottish Parliament  
EDINBURGH  
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Date 30 September 2014  
Your Ref  
Our Ref LMcL/JB/jp 1609 N Sharratt  
Enquiries to Lesley McLay  
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Dear Mr Sharratt

### **CONSIDERATION OF PETITION PE1524**

NHS Tayside currently provides wifi access to the corporate data communications network (currently N3, but about to migrate to Scottish Wide Area Network - SWAN) for staff or contractors /partners working for, or on behalf of the Board.

Corporate wireless coverage across NHS Tayside sites is not pervasive, but is extended opportunistically as funding becomes available. It is extremely unlikely, for security reasons particularly that this network will be made available to members of the public/patients.

The eHealth Directorate has investigated the possibility of providing a non-corporate wifi capable of delivering internet access to members of the public, especially patients. Potentially suitable technical solutions have been identified and we are looking to identify funding streams to be able to implement these.

In the current financial climate, it is unlikely that NHS Tayside will embark on a project to provide public wifi, as there are higher patient care related priorities for ICT infrastructure funding already identified.

Yours sincerely

**Lesley McLay**  
**Chief Executive**



*Everyone has the best care experience possible*  
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Chairman, Mr Sandy Watson OBE DL  
Chief Executive, Ms Lesley McLay

