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Dear Lewis

I am writing to update the Committee on the formal set up date of the Public Inquiry into the construction of the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital Campus (QEUH), Glasgow and the Royal Hospital for Children and Young People and Department of Clinical Neurosciences (RHCYP/DCN), Edinburgh.

Section 5 of the Inquiries Act 2005 requires that I set out both the Terms of Reference and setting-up date for the Inquiry before it is fully established.

The Inquiry's Remit and Terms of Reference were published on 15 June 2020 and I was pleased to have consulted with Lord Brodie, party spokespeople and patients and families during the drafting process. The Remit and Terms of Reference can be viewed at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/inquiry-into-the-construction-of-the-qeuh-glasgow-and-the-rhcyp-dcn-edinburgh-terms-of-reference/>.

Following recent discussions with the Inquiry Chair, The Right Honourable Lord Brodie QC PC, I can also now confirm that the Inquiry will have a setting-up date of 3 August 2020.

The Inquiry will be fully independent of the Scottish Government and its conduct, procedures and lines of enquiry are a matter for the Chair. The practical arrangements for the Inquiry have been affected by the Covid-19 restrictions, particularly with regard to securing accommodation and personnel, and my officials will continue to provide assistance and support as appropriate to ensure that the Inquiry is fully equipped to undertake its important work.



The Public Inquiry will be the next critical next step in seeking to understand the issues that have affected both the QEUH and RHCYP/DCN and will make recommendations identifying any lessons learnt to ensure that any past mistakes are not repeated in any future NHS infrastructure projects.

I will continue to keep the Committee updated on progress towards establishing this important Inquiry.

*Kind regards*  
*Jeane*  
**JEANE FREEMAN**

