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Lewis Macdonald MSP
Convener
Health and Sport Committee

By Email.

18 December 2020

Dear Lewis

EXTENSION OF FREE CAR PARKING

I am writing to provide an update on the free car parking arrangements at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh Royal Infirmary and Ninewells Hospital.

The staff of the NHS should be fully supported while continuing to go above and beyond during the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes continuing to provide them with access to free car parking at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh Royal Infirmary and Ninewells Hospital.

In March 2020, the Scottish Government agreed to fund the suspension of car parking charges by the three PFI hospital car park providers for an initial period of three months. This was extended on two occasions and the current agreement with the car park operators ends in January 2021.

The Scottish Government has now agreed to fund the extension of the free car parking arrangements until 31 March 2021. I am sure you will agree that will support staff and remove the barriers to them staff working with the NHS during these unprecedented times.

In the meantime, the Scottish Government, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, NHS Lothian and NHS Tayside continue to explore the options for a long-term solution to provide free car parking for staff, patients and visitors.

JEANE FREEMAN

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