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Lewis Macdonald MSP
Convener
Health and Sports Committee

By Email.

18 March 2021

Dear Lewis,

NHS LOUISA JORDAN HOSPITAL

I am writing to confirm to the Health and Sports Committee that the current licence to operate between Scottish Government Ministers and the Scottish Exhibition Campus (SEC) for the NHS Louisa Jordan hospital, established to support Scotland's response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, is due to end on 31 March 2021 will not be extended.

Since July 2020 NHS Louisa Jordan has played a crucial role in supporting the remobilisation of NHS Scotland. Thanks to the public's continued efforts to reduce the spread of the virus, the hospital was not required to treat COVID-19 patients but remained ready to accept patients, if required.

Under the existing licence, the NHS Louisa Jordan was due to close operationally on 31 January 2021 with decommissioning up to 30 April 2021. Agreement has been reached to extend the licence for the operation of the hospital to 31 March 2021 with decommissioning starting on 1 April 2021. The Scottish Events Campus will be returned to a working events and conference centre, signalling that society is beginning to return to normal with NHS services remobilising across the country, NHS staff at the NHS Louisa Jordan will return to their own health boards or support the vaccination programme at The SSE Hydro.

Vaccination Programme

The Mass Vaccination Centre which is operating in NHS Louisa Jordan will be relocated to The SSE Hydro with no gaps in provision. Once relocated to The SSE Hydro, the centre will continue to be able to run daily clinics with the ability to administer a minimum of 4,000 vaccinations, with capacity to scale up to as many as 10,000 per day.

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Elective operations, Diagnostics and Education services

By 31 March 2021 the hospital will have carried out over 32,000 outpatient and diagnostic appointments, trained over 6,900 healthcare staff and students, and vaccinated over 170,000 people across the Greater Glasgow and Clyde area. The site has also supported the Scottish Blood Transfusion Service, with over 500 donations being carried out, as well as providing Occupational Health services for the University of Glasgow for nearly 1,000 people. The current and expected need for the NHS Louisa Jordan for Outpatient services and Education service has been reducing as NHSScotland remobilises services. The relevant NHS Boards are currently exploring repatriation and other options for the provision of the services currently provided at NHS Louisa Jordan. I am however able to advise that the Skills and Education Hub will transfer back to NHS Education for Scotland on 31 March 2021.

I hope this information is helpful to the Committee and I will keep you updated on progress.

JEANE FREEMAN

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