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Your ref: PE1105

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Thank you for your letter of 24 September 2008 and the enclosed correspondence concerning the petition brought by Mrs Marjorie McCance on behalf of the St. Margaret of Scotland Hospice, Clydebank.

I have had the opportunity to review this correspondence and I remain of the view that consideration of these issues is for NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, in dialogue with the Board of St. Margaret's. I have made clear to both organisations that I expect constructive engagement to lead to substantive options which focus on the health needs of the population served.

I understand that the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Board will consider a further paper on 21 October 2008. As I have underlined previously, the planning and provision of NHS services is a matter for the individual NHS Board. Organisations providing services to the NHS need to give full consideration to alignment with NHS strategic priorities.

I hope this information is helpful.

NICOLA STURGEON

