



Cllr Len Scoullar
Kilmory
Lochgilphead
PA31 8RT

Date: 12 Sept '14
Your Ref:
Our Ref: GC/SFL (CHR 825)

Enquiries to: Garry Coutts
Extension: 4953
Direct Line: 01463 704953
Email: garry.coutts@nhs.net

Dear Cllr. Scoullar

Isle of Mull - GP Services In and Out of Hours.

Thank you for your letter dated the 12th August 2014 regarding the above and I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

I note in your letter that you have received a copy of the briefing note on the status and action planned for service provision on Mull. I can confirm this remains unchanged and the 2 recent public drop in sessions were well received and beneficial. A further public drop in session on the Island of Iona is due to take place on the 23 September.

This information and comments from these sessions will be collated into a report which we will use to inform the review of service planned. The formal project arrangements for the review are in the process of being finalised and further information will be released and widely publicised shortly.

You specifically request an assurance from NHS Highland on the service provision in Tobermory. I can confirm that NHS Highland will be putting in place an interim service to provide an out of hours GP response to the community from the date of opt out of the practice in January 2015 and during the project review period. The exact arrangements for this are being worked through but it does involve input from GPs on the Island.

I hope this provides you with the assurance you seek at this stage. I fully recognise the context and issues the Argyll Isles task force are progressing and acknowledge the key role of sustainable and high quality health service play in ensuring a vibrant and growing Island economy and community.



Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me or my colleague
Veronica Kennedy, Locality Manager.

Yours sincerely



Garry Coutts
Chair

Copy : Veronica Kennedy, Acting Locality Manager
Dr Michael Hall, CHP Clinical Director
Dr Richard Wilson, Locality Clinical Director
Joyce Robinson, Primary Services Manager
Stephen Whiston, Head of Planning Contracting and Performance