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**WENDY ALEXANDER MSP  
PAISLEY NORTH**

21<sup>st</sup> September 2010

Robert Calderwood  
Chief Executive  
Greater Glasgow & Clyde Health Board  
J B Russell House  
Gartnavel Royal Hospital  
1055 Great Western Road  
Glasgow  
G12 0XH

Dear Robert,

Thank you for your letter of 17<sup>th</sup> September. As you are aware there has been a welcome for the adjustments made on Monday. However there is a widespread feeling that further adjustments are necessary.

As I understand it the current position is:

**Front Car Park**      465 visitor/patient spaces including 30 disabled  
75 staff spaces on first come first served basis

**Rear Car Park**      460 permits issued for 329 spaces  
101 staff spaces on first come first served basis

Whilst the issuing of permits has caused some controversy in terms of who has qualified and the number for staff who are not permanently based at RAH who are receiving permits I simply note these concerns. The dominating ongoing issue concerns the ratio of patient/visitor spaces to staff first come first served spaces.

I appreciate recent moves could remove 200 cars from neighbouring streets. However many staff would like the front car park adjusted to allow 230 visitor/patient places (including disabled spaces) and 310 staff first come first served places. This could potentially remove another 235 cars from neighbouring streets. There is much support for making such a solution.

However if this was felt too radical a step, another option would be to release a further 165 front car park spaces to staff on first come first served it would remove a further 165 cars from neighbouring street, whilst leaving 300 visitor/patient only spaces.

Both options would command the support of many staff and would raise morale whilst leaving significant dedicated space for visitor/patients.

Given the impact on morale of the recent changes I urge you to trial the options suggested here. I realise there may be concerns regarding sufficient space for visitors/patients at peak times. But 200+ short stay visitor parking slots is a big step towards tackling the originally identified issue. Moreover 200+ spaces for visitors would not preclude visitors/patients parking in staff parking places in the front car park if space was available.

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I have no doubt such an approach could command the support of staff, local residents and many visitors. I hope you will give it full consideration. Of course future adjustments may be necessary – but we will never know unless the board are willing to trial such a solution.

As recent weeks have demonstrated it is vital we strive to find a solution that is right for this site. That means a solution that recognises its suburban location, shortage of public transport links and the dispersed location of many staff.

I hope you can agree to examine and ideally trial as soon as possible these possible solutions.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Wendy Alexander". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Wendy Alexander MSP