

Item 7 – Highland Council 14 September 2023

- (ii) This Council notes with concern the prolonged closure of some public toilets in the Highland area and agrees that early restoration of these facilities is vital. In Thurso the closure dates back more than one year. The disabled toilet is padlocked and cannot be opened by RADAR key holders. We are in the middle of our tourist season with numerous cruise liners visiting Scrabster meaning that thousands of additional tourists visit the town. The alternative public toilet which is opened and closed by volunteers is a considerable distance away from the centre and has limited signage.

This Council therefore agrees that a report, detailing the steps to be taken to re-open the facilities, be submitted to the next meeting of Communities & Place Committee.

Signed: Mr R Gunn Mr R Gale Mrs A MacLean Mr J Grafton Mr
M Baird Ms J McEwan Mr A Graham Ms M MacCallum

S95 officer assessment of financial implications.

This motion is anticipated to have a financial implication to the Council.

- (iii) Highland Council calls upon the Scottish Government to fund NHS Highland sufficiently well to do its job and avoid massive cuts!
1. Review the financial chasm between NHS Highland Services needs to deliver high-quality person-centred care and the associated budget allocated by the Scottish Government.
 2. Recognize that:
 - a. As at the last published financial report of the 30th June NHS Highland had submitted a financial plan to Scottish Government for the 2023/2024 financial year, with an initial budget gap of approaching a hundred million pounds, with actual funding cuts of almost thirty million pounds proposed.
 - b. No funding source had subsequently been identified to close the associated residual gap of seventy million pounds.
 - c. The Scottish Government 'Tailored Support' to the NHS Highland Financial Plan entails a review of activities with a view to working with Lead Officers to identify activities that may be reduced or stopped.

Call upon the Scottish Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care to fund NHS Highland sufficiently to do its job.

Call upon the Scottish Cabinet Secretary to acknowledge the devastating effect these cuts will be on a Highland population that is already struggling to access care, dentistry, GP and hospital services across the region.

Signed:- Mr A MacDonald Mr A Graham

S95 officer assessment of financial implications.

This motion is not anticipated to have a financial implication to the Council.