



Marlyn Glen

Scottish Labour MSP for North East Scotland

02 June 2008

Dundee Community Health Partnership told to find £1.2 million "efficiency savings" this year, says MSP

Marlyn Glen revealed today that the Dundee Community Health Partnership are expected by the Scottish Government to find "efficiency savings" of £1.2 million this year.

Ms. Glen had written to Dundee CHP asking about the level of "efficiency savings" that had been laid down by the Scottish Government for them to identify and carry out.

NHS Tayside Associate Director of Finance I S McDonald said that NHS Tayside had locally agreed to devolve the achievement of these efficiency savings within the organisation, and hence for 2008/09, 2 per cent savings targets are being devolved to the Dundee Community Health Partnership.

This is equivalent to a target of £1.2 million this year.

He said,

"It is worth noting that the 2 per cent savings targets devolved to Dundee CHP and other operational units are used, alongside the NHS Tayside general allocation uplift, to fund forecast inflationary cost pressures and agreed Tayside developments."

Commenting, Ms. Glen said,

"The Scottish Government's drive for efficiency savings must not impair the quality of service for patients in NHS Tayside.

"Such savings must be demonstrated by the Scottish Government to have been achieved through improvements in services and not by reductions in services."

Ms. Glen disclosed that NHS Tayside are expected to find £35 million in "efficiency savings" over the next three years.

In a letter to Ms. Glen, NHS Tayside Chair, Sandy Watson, said that the probe for savings "will present a significant challenge to continue to deliver the same scale of cost improvement which has been achieved in recent years."

He added,

"Given also that staffing budgets are such a significant element of our expenditure, it would be foolish to suggest that efficiencies will not be sought in this area."

WEBSITE LINKS

MARLYN GLEN www.marlynglen.org.uk

NORTH EAST SCOTLAND LABOUR : www.nescotlandlabour.org.uk