



Marlyn Glen

Scottish Labour MSP for North East Scotland

7 March 2008

Speech in the Scottish Parliament

NHS Tayside health budget hit by new funding method for NHS in Scotland

North East Scotland MSP Marlyn Glen has expressed concern that a new method of allocating funding to health boards in Scotland beginning in 2009 would have seen NHS Tayside losing the equivalent of £11.5 million in revenue funding this year and £10.9 million next year if the new method had been operating at present and had reached its full stage of implementation.

The information received in answers to Parliamentary Questions tabled by Ms. Glen refer to the NHS Scotland Resource Allocation Committee (NRAC) target allocation method which the Scottish Government have already announced that they will introduce in 2009-10.

This would have reduced NHS Tayside's initial revenue allocation in this financial year 2007-08 from £549.3 million to £ 537.8 million

Initial revenue allocation funding for the next financial year of 2008-09 would have fallen from £566.4million to £555.4million.

Ms. Glen said that the answers also confirmed that NHS Tayside's share of the general allocation to health boards in Scotland will fall.

In Tayside's case it will fall by 0.15 per cent from 7.98%.to 7.83%, which, said Ms. Glen, translates into millions of pounds.

In reply to Ms. Glen, Health Secretary Nicola Sturgeon said, "No Board will receive less funding than it does at present and changes flowing from the NRAC recommendations and the changes will be phased in over a number of years."

Ms. Glen said that she would now be questioning the Health secretary whether this meant that Tayside's annual allocations would be less than the rate of NHS inflation.

She added that she was also raising with Ms. Sturgeon the methods used to determine the new funding arrangements, since the lack of equality in health care in parts of Tayside was substantial and the proposed uplift in funding to the board was at the lower end of all health boards.

Notes to editors :

(1)

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

WRITTEN ANSWER

5 March 2008

Index Heading: Health and Wellbeing

Marlyn Glen (North East Scotland) (Lab): To ask the Scottish Executive what the revenue allocations to NHS Tayside were in (a) 2007-08 and (b) 2008-09 and what their corresponding values would be if the NHS Scotland Resource Allocation Committee (NRAC) target allocations were used.

(S3W-10493)

Ms Nicola Sturgeon:

Details are as follows:

Year	Actual Initial Allocation	NRAC Target Initial Allocation
	£000s	£000s
2007-08	549,382	537,865
2008-09	566,431	555,483

These allocations are NHS Tayside's initial allocations for 2007-08 and 2008-09 which are calculated on the basis of the Arbutnott formula. Further in year allocations are made for specific purposes.

To avoid turbulence, no Board will receive less funding than it does at present and changes flowing from the NRAC recommendations will be phased in over a number of years, as has been the practice under both the SHARE and Arbutnott formulae

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

WRITTEN ANSWER

5 March 2008

Index Heading: Health and Wellbeing

Marlyn Glen (North East Scotland) (Lab): To ask the Scottish Executive what NHS Tayside's percentage share is of the total general allocation to territorial NHS boards and what that percentage would be if the NHS Scotland Resource Allocation Committee (NRAC) calibration was used.

(S3W-10494)

Ms Nicola Sturgeon:

In 2008-09, NHS Tayside's percentage share is 7.98%. The Board's NRAC target share is 7.83%

To avoid turbulence, no Board will receive less funding than it does at present and changes flowing from the NRAC recommendations will be phased in over a number of years, as has been the practice under both the SHARE and Arbutnott formulae

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WEBSITE LINKS

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