

Craig Hoy MSP  
M3.17  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

Date 12 November 2021  
Your Ref NHS Flu vaccine for school staff  
Our Ref 1135

Enquiries to  
Extension  
Direct Line  
Email

Dear Craig,

Thank you for your email dated 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021, raising the concerns of the EIS regarding the delivery of the flu vaccination to teachers within the workplace. As you will be aware teachers are a new cohort to the programme and be assured, they have not been withdrawn and are still eligible to receive their vaccination.

Our priority is to ensure all eligible individuals have access to the vaccination as early as possible. The NHS Lothian Children's flu delivery team made the decision to offer the flu vaccination to teachers at the same time as pupils. However, due to the complexity of the plan with different vaccine required for different groups, and adults recorded on a different system from Children, it became very clear that we ran a significant risk of not getting to all schools with both teachers and students missing out. To mitigate the risk, we joined with other boards across Scotland and brought teachers in line with prison and health and social care staff and offered access to the booking portal.

Teachers, with other key occupations, can access the portal and book an appointment at a time that suits them, they also have access to clinics closer to their home.

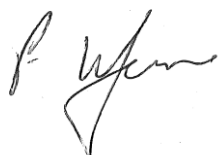
I am sorry that EIS have concerns, but our absolute priority is to deliver the programme to as many individuals as possible and the approach now in place allows this while giving fair access to all key occupation staff. The risk of not taking this is that the programme will be significantly delayed potentially impacting on the health and wellbeing of the wider community.

Yours sincerely

Headquarters  
Waverley Gate  
2-4 Waterloo Place  
Edinburgh EH1 3EG

Chair Professor John Connaghan CBE  
Chief Executive Calum Campbell

*Lothian NHS Board is the common  
name of Lothian Health Board*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pat Wynne'.

**Pat Wynne**  
**Director of Nursing for Primary and Community Care**  
**NHS Lothian/Co-Chair FVCV Programme**