



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba



Daniel Johnson MSP

Nicola Sturgeon MSP  
First Minister  
Scottish Government  
St. Andrews House  
Regent Road  
Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

2 Oct 2020

Dear Nicola Sturgeon MSP

**RE: Seasonal Flu Jab**

I have recently raised the issue of access and the general setup of the seasonal flu jab this year with the Cabinet Secretary for Health on behalf of constituents. While I am still awaiting that response, I feel that this is now developing into a very serious situation as more and more constituents contact both me and my colleague Ian Murray MP to raise specific concerns. Those issues are as follows:

- Suitability of the walk-through site situated at Princes Street Gardens – especially for those who struggle with mobility and those who are part of the Shielded Group.
- Access to drive through sites – reports of people being turned away.
- People yet to receive any correspondence on what to do and how to access this year's flu jab.
- Concerns raised around access through pharmacies – people have been informed that while many pharmacies have now run out of NHS flu jabs they are able to offer it for a fee. I have also been informed that certain pharmacies in the constituency have asked for more NHS flu jabs but that this has not been made available.
- Finally, people have experienced difficulties contacting NHS Lothian on all of these issues.

Ian Murray and I have raised these issues with NHS Lothian, but we would be keen to know what action the Scottish Government is taking to ensure suitable access to flu jabs. The issues highlighted above point to a very difficult situation developing, where people may go without their flu jab and that, added to the problems created by Covid-19, should be a concern that the Scottish Government is taking seriously.

As I have said this is an issue of real concern to many of the most vulnerable people in Edinburgh. I look forward to hearing from on this urgent matter.

Yours sincerely,

Daniel Johnson  
MSP for Edinburgh Southern

Ian Murray MP  
MP for Edinburgh South

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**Daniel Johnson MSP**

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