



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Jamie Halcro Johnston MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament | Highlands and Islands

Fiona Davies
Chief Executive, NHS Highland
Assynt House
Beechwood Park
Inverness, IV2 3BW

18th September 2024

Dear Ms Davies,

I am writing following the decision by HC-One Scotland to close Moss Park Care Home in Fort William, as outlined in the letter I received today from their Managing Director, Maxine Smedley. You will be well aware that, with the closure of Moss Park Care Home, Fort William will be left with only one care home. This will be a significant loss for the local community and is simply unacceptable for a town of this size. The closure will have a huge impact on the residents of Moss Park and their families, and I know of the shock and worry many will be feeling today given the looming threat of losing their home.

It will also inevitably lead to increased pressure on local NHS services as fewer beds available for elderly and vulnerable residents in need of care only risks more patients being left in hospital longer than is needed. I hope you will agree that we cannot afford to lose vital care capacity in Lochaber, where demand is consistently high and where the healthcare system is already under pressure.

And so I would ask NHS Highland to explore every possible option for stepping in to help keep Moss Park open in the short and medium term, as well as working on a long-term plan to provide some reassurance for residents and their families. I would also be grateful if you could advise what efforts you have made, and discussions you have had with key stakeholders - including the owners and the Scottish Government, with a view to keeping Moss Park open.

I do appreciate the complexity and the challenges of the situation but, given the severity of the consequences this closure would bring, I hope you will consider this a priority and work with HC-One, Highland Council, and other relevant partners to find a solution.

The health and wellbeing of the residents, their families, and the local community depend on Moss Park staying open, and I am ready to provide any help and support I can in achieving that. I look forward to your response and any opportunity to discuss this matter further with you.

Yours sincerely,



Jamie Halcro Johnston MSP