Dear Colleague

OUTSOURCING OF SOFT FACILITIES MANAGEMENT SERVICES IN NHS SCOTLAND

The provision of soft facilities management services such as cleaning and catering play a key role in the delivery of clinical services in NHS Scotland. The Scottish Government believe that NHS Scotland should therefore be responsible for the direct delivery of these services wherever possible. Accordingly the Cabinet Secretary has announced that all cleaning, catering and clinically related soft facilities management services in NHS Scotland clinical premises are to be exempt from contracting out in future schemes whether funded through Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) or not.

This guidance supersedes guidance with respect to the decision to include or exclude services from PPP procurement. The relevant HDLs are HDL (2003) 50 and HDL (2004) 18. HDL (2006) 10 remains relevant in so far as it relates to hard facilities management services and Staff Governance.

Any existing contracts for the provision of such services are not affected by this guidance.

Action
NHS Boards should implement this guidance with immediate effect.

Yours sincerely

John Matheson

Director of Health Finance