

SCOTTISH HOSPITALS INQUIRY

Interim Closing Statement on behalf of Multiplex Construction Europe Limited

Hearing Diet: 12 June 2023 to 23 June 2023 ("June 2023 Hearing")

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This closing statement on behalf of Multiplex Construction Europe Limited ("Multiplex") is produced in response to the Closing Statement by Counsel to the Inquiry, dated 21 July 2023.
- 1.2 Multiplex explained its interest in this hearings diet in its application to be given leave to appear at the hearings. In particular, Multiplex submitted to the Inquiry that in light of its role in designing and constructing the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital ("QEUH") campus it had a direct and significant interest in evidence which relates to the hospital built environment. In its application Multiplex noted its understanding that the June 2023 Hearings would be used to identify further lines of investigation for future hearings and so sought to, and did attend, the June 2023 hearings such that it can best assist the Inquiry with these further investigations.
- 1.3 Multiplex did not apply to have questions put to anyone who gave evidence at the June 2023 Hearing. It did not do so because it was conscious of the fact that the purpose of the diet was to obtain the perspective of staff on the concerns described by patients and families at the previous hearing, this being a matter Multiplex is not able to comment on.
- 1.4 Multiplex wishes to acknowledge the experience of those giving evidence and the challenges they faced. Multiplex remains committed to assisting the Inquiry in all future investigations relating to how the build environment may have contributed to these challenges.

2 The ability of Multiplex to respond to the evidence.

- 2.1 The closing statement by Counsel to the Inquiry invites Core Participants to answer specific questions, including confirming whether they accept that the account of the evidence, and evidence itself, is accurate.
- 2.2 Multiplex is conscious that the evidence from clinical and medical staff largely related to (a) time periods after Multiplex's primary involvement, i.e., post migration, after design and construction when QEUH had been handed over to Greater Glasgow Health Board; and (b) to matters of a clinical nature.

- 2.3 Much in the same way Multiplex did not seek to put questions to anyone who gave evidence, it therefore does not propose to question or comment upon the Inquiry's summary of the evidence that was then given.
- 2.4 Accordingly, in relation to question 1 posed by Counsel for the Inquiry at paragraph 6, regarding Chapters 1-3, 5 & 7, namely: "*Do CPs accept that the account of the evidence is accurate*"; and paragraph 152 question 1, in relation to Chapter 4: "*Is it accepted that the narrative set out below provides a materially accurate summary of the evidence provided to the Inquiry – whether that evidence be in witness or in documentary form – about the history of concern?*" Multiplex accept the closing submission as being an accurate reflection of the evidence provided to the Inquiry at the June 2023 Hearing, the witness evidence being the recollection of those involved during the time period examined.
- 2.5 In relation to the other specific questions posed by Counsel for the Inquiry, for the reasons outlined above, Multiplex do not consider it appropriate for them to seek to comment on these given they relate to clinical matters post migration.
- 2.6 In so far as the evidence of the June 2023 Hearing touched upon the built hospital environment, Multiplex note the position set out in the Closing Statement by Counsel to the Inquiry that this is a matter which will be considered in future investigations.
- 2.7 Multiplex, as the design and build contractor, can assist the Inquiry with future investigations into the technical design and construction the Hospital; as noted above, remains commitment to assisting the Inquiry with their investigations.