

Cllr Gordon Matheson  
Leader, Glasgow City Council  
City Chambers  
Glasgow  
G2 1DU

13 April 2011

Direct dial 0131 525 8900  
Fax 0131 525 8901  
Web www.snp.org

Dear Gordon

Accord Centre.

I met today with a group campaigning on the future of the Accord Centre in Dalmarnock, and am very concerned about what they had to tell me regarding its closure.

Representatives from the group advise that they were originally offered like for like replacement, but despite assurances, this has not happened. Indeed, I understand that the alternative suggested by the council, of a room within another centre, is not suitable or appropriate for adults with learning difficulties. I also understand that the group have not been offered the opportunity to look at other options.

While I write as Leader of the SNP, as you would expect during an election campaign, you will know that as First Minister I am determined that no group should feel dispossessed as a result of the great venture that the Commonwealth Games represents for Glasgow and for Scotland.

It is a sign of Scottish Government commitment to Glasgow and the Commonwealth Games that we are funding some 80% of costs in order that a successful event should be held that showcases our wonderful city to the Commonwealth and the wider world. I feel it would be impossible to sustain that ideal if citizens of Glasgow feel legitimately aggrieved that their views are not being taken into account or defended.

On consideration, I would urge you in the strongest possible terms to facilitate a solution to this issue as a matter of priority, and I know that you will share with me the desire to make this happen.

I would look forward to, as soon as the election is over, rejoining this dialogue, by which time I hope that the Dalmarnock group will have had their legitimate concerns accorded a proper solution.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely



ALEX SALMOND  
SNP Leader