PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF PE1384: QUESTIONS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE MEETINGS

TUESDAY 12 JUNE 2012

Scottish Government—

- The Committee draws your attention to the four points raised by the petitioner in her most recent response (PE1384:L) and asks that you take these points into account when formulating your final AHP National Delivery Plan.

TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2011

Scottish Government—

The petition sets out the case for how investment in Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) services can save public money in the short, medium and long term. The petitioner argues that for people with swallowing problems following a stroke, every £1 invested in low intensity SLT could generate an estimated £2.30 of health care cost savings through avoided chest infections. The petitioner states that SLT is estimated to prevent 4,300 cases of chest infection requiring hospital care and 9,200 cases of chest infections requiring community care (across the UK).

In the Scottish Spending Review 2011 and Draft Budget 2012-13 the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Employment and Sustainable Growth makes clear that one of the fundamental priorities in the budget is *"to deliver an ambitious public sector reform programme with a decisive shift in favour of preventative spend"*

How does the Scottish Government see SLT fitting into its preventative spend agenda and how is this reflected in the draft budget? What is the Scottish Government doing to encourage Health Boards to invest in SLT services to secure savings in other health service areas in furtherance of the preventative spend agenda?

TUESDAY 20 September 2011

Scottish Government—

- In relation to the point made by the petitioner can you explain how you are able to properly assess that the needs of patients are being met when you do not seek or hold information on patients access to AHP services? The Committee would find it helpful if you could obtain this information from the NHS Boards?
- Again, as suggested by the petitioner the Committee would be grateful if you could obtain information, from NHS Boards if necessary, on the frequency of the use of "specific circumstances exceptions", the number of

disputes between Education Authorities and NHS Boards regarding SLT and the nature of these in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

- With regards to the qualitative and quantitative scoping exercise that is being undertaken and due to be reported on in late 2011, can you confirm if this will only report on issues or if it will make recommendations on how these should be directly addressed.
- Can you clarify how you will ensure people with Speech, Language and Communication Needs are enabled to enjoy equity under the Patients Rights Act and Healthcare Quality Strategy.

TUESDAY 22 February 2011

Scottish Government—

- What is your response to the point made by NHS Lothian (PE1384/D) on the subject of dispute resolution and will it act on this matter?
- What is your comprehensive response to all the points/questions raised by the petitioner (PE1384/F)?

TUESDAY 25 January 2011—

Scottish Government—

- In what specific ways do your policies and guidelines ensure that local authorities and NHS boards protect the provision of quality speech and language therapy services for all people with speech/language communication support needs and/or swallowing difficulties? How is this evidenced?
- Do you agree with points A to D raised by the petitioner (section 5 of the petition) and what immediate actions will you take to address each of these?

Selection of local authorities (Edinburgh, Fife, Glasgow City)—
Selection of NHS Boards (Lothian, Fife, Greater Glasgow)—
RNID (Scotland)—
National Autistic Society (Scotland)—

- What is your response to the points made in the petition?
- How do you ensure that quality speech and language therapy services are protected when planning local services and setting budgets? How is this evidenced? *[local authorities and NHS boards only]*