

PE1105/YY

The Quality Unit

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Alison Wilson
Assistant Clerk
Public Petition Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP



Your ref: PE1105
10 April 2012

Dear Alison,

Public Petition 1105

I am responding to your letter of 8 February 2012 in relation to the progress of Scottish Governments consultation on the revised guidance on adult hospice funding. I have listed the question below together with our response.

"Further to your response of 8 November 2011, the Committee would be grateful to receive an update on the progress of the Short Life Working Group in developing the revised guidance for future funding arrangements for hospices?"

Since the first meeting of the Short Life Working Group (SLWG) on 27 October 2011, a draft Chief Executive Letter (CEL) to supersede NHS HDL (2003) 18 - "Funding of Specialist Palliative Care Provided by Independent Voluntary Hospices in Scotland" has been produced.

At a meeting of the SLWG on 15 December 2011, representatives were able to discuss and give their opinion on the various aspects and sections contained within the draft CEL.

Following this meeting, the draft CEL has incorporated suggested amendments from members of the Group including those representing St Margaret of Scotland Hospice on this issue.

A further draft has been circulated to members of the SLWG, final amendments are currently being made to the document. It is anticipated the CEL will be published in the next two weeks. A link to the final document will be forwarded to the Committee through the Assistant Clerk.

Yours sincerely

Mark O'Donnell
Acting Deputy Director