

PE1545/H

Population Health Improvement Directorate
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Ms Sigrid Robinson
Assistant Clerk
Public Petitions Committee
Scottish Parliament
T3.40
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP



31 July 2015

Dear Sigrid

CONSIDERATION OF PETITION [PE1545](#)

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to recognise residential care as a way severely learning disabled children, young people and adults can lead happy and fulfilled lives and provide the resources to local authorities to establish residential care options for families in Scotland.

Following the Committee's further consideration of the above petition on 26 May 2015; you wrote seeking clarity on the Scottish Government's suggestion that we undertake with our delivery partners some national work to assess the current need for residential care facilities for the severely learning disabled adults in Scotland

Since the Committee met, the Scottish Government has been in discussion with our delivery partners SCLD, the Learning Disability Observatory and PAMIS as well as the Muir Maxwell Trust to explore this further.

We understand that the petitioner has had initial discussions with SCLD and that an introduction to PAMIS, whose specific focus is profound and multiple learning disability has also taken place. However, to explore how we will take forward this national work we have arranged to meet with Ms Maxwell on 6 August along with SCLD, PAMIS, and the Learning Disability Observatory. We expect at that meeting to make some progress on hope determining how the Scottish Government in partnership with the relevant stakeholders can carry out an assessment of need.

We are also currently in discussion with Holyrood Magazine about Scottish Government attending a learning disabilities event on 23 September 2015, which Ms Maxwell is speaking

at. The event is titled - Are we doing enough in Scotland for people with Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities (PMLD)?

In terms of policy development since the committee last met we have developed an outcomes approach to *The keys to life* and on 30 June 2015 *The keys To life* Implementation Framework And Priorities, 2015-17 was published see :

<http://keystolife.info/updates/the-keys-to-life-implementation-framework-and-priorities-2015-17/>

The Framework very much reflects the key messages received from people with learning disabilities about what is most important to them in implementing The Keys to Life recommendations. Working to implement the strategy and framework will be a key priority in continuing improvement to a range of activities in supporting people with learning disabilities to live independently in the community with equal access to all aspects of society.

Another key focus in *The keys to life* is to make people with learning disabilities visible in routinely collected data. We are working closely with our partners on a data linkage programme to make this happen. Although some progress has been made this work will take time.

I hope this response will be of assistance to the Committee in its continuing consideration of the Petition.

Yours sincerely

Annette Pyle
Care Support and Rights Division
Scottish Government