

PE1568/W

Petitioner Letter of 4 December 2015

Dear Mr Sharratt,

RE: PETITION 01568: Funding, Access and Promotion of the NHS Centre for Integrative Care

The Chief Executive of NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde (GG&C) has delayed response for almost two months, but still avoids answering the committee's questions. I renew my appeal to end hiding behind "brush off" letters and call people before the committee, especially GG&C representatives as they are the key host board.

These tactics are insulting – only GG&C delayed until 3rd December replying to your 7th October letter and then did a late "hit and run". As petitioner, I had to sum up all replies by 1st December before I could see Glasgow's response of 3rd December.

Two main points:

1. Mr. Calderwood won't state the funding his Board receives from other Boards for the CIC hospital services as the host board.

It is impossible to accept that the Chief Executive or his staff cannot provide this - with no advance warning in two months.

Question: Is this public money unaccountable and not in the books anywhere?

Question: Might the Auditor General or the Parliament's Audit Committee be able to assist? Might there also be payments for other services which GG&C cannot "identify"?

Total change to previous statements:

2. **Question:** Why was reliance on other Boards to keep the CIC viable stated repeatedly if he now claims he doesn't know what funding is sent?

Mr. Calderwood's letter overturns regular public statements by him and his Board. He now claims that funding from other Boards is NOT "crucial to the CIC being viable". Apart from official GG&C press statements (sample below) Mr Calderwood has emphasised personally that his Board is reliant on other Boards' contributions in letters to MSPs and patients this year and previously. I have also heard him state this at several of his Board's annual reviews.

Question: Does his letter indicate that his Board is aiming towards confining CIC services, supposed to be a "national resource", to mainly patients from Greater Glasgow and Clyde?

The CIC is down to only four boards out of 14 sending under regular agreements. I'd say this was largely through failure to promote or even **understand** how wide CIC services are. This has allowed other Boards to show their extreme prejudice against homeopathy, ignore other integrated services and patient protests.

Example: Mr Calderwood mentions only Homeopathy. But he was at his Board's annual review in August 2015 when the Health Secretary, Shona Robison, corrected people mentioning only homeopathy. Chaired the meeting, Ms Robison said that "The CIC does a whole range of things. I visited the hospital with the public health minister and have to say I was impressed with the range of services there and with the staff and the positive feedback I got from patients".

I'd be very grateful for action by the Committee.

With Regards,

Catherine Hughes

Health board to stop sending patients to homeopathic hospital

www.heraldscotland.com/.../13193012.**Health_board_to_stop_sending_...**

- 9 Dec 2014 - A spokesman for NHS Greater **Glasgow and Clyde** said it was "**reliant on the ongoing commitment**" from **other health boards**, raising fears ...The Herald, Dec, 2014.
- Evening Times 10 Dec 2014 A spokesman for NHSGGC said: "As we have consistently said, the position we adopted after the 2005 review to retain the inpatient service has not changed. However, we are reliant on the ongoing commitment from other Boards to make use of the inpatient services to maintain their viability.