

PE1568/Z

William Banyard Letter of 17 February 2016

Michael McMahon MSP
Chairman of the Petitions Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh EH99 1SP

Dear Sir

I attended the meeting of the Public Petitions Committee on the 9th February. My interest was in Petition PE1568 regarding the future of the CIC and in particular the provision of homeopathic services by the NHS.

I was impressed by the courteous questioning of the witnesses by the Chairman and members of the Committee which were fair and incisive. I cannot say the same of the answers from the NHS managers.

Many of the questions were answered by Dr Kohli of NHS Lanarkshire who seemed to have no belief in the concept of "Patient Centred Medicine". His declaration that the patients receiving the endangered services had not been consulted and that it was not possible to do so can only be described as arrogant. My experience in Lothian was that patients in Lothian were not only not consulted, they were not even informed.

It would appear that the NHS managers are purely administrators and are quite detached from the delivery of medical help and needs of the actual patients and are only concerned with the management of facilities and finance.

The excellent research and factual evidence submitted to the area Health Committees by Mrs Margaret Wyllie regarding homeopathy was either unread or ignored. There is a huge amount of unjustified prejudice against these therapies based on ignorance or malign misinformation.

Yours sincerely,

William Banyard