

PE1463/XXX

Caroline Mott Letter of 25 February 2016

Dear Convener and Members of the Committee

Petition PE01463 Committee Meeting 9th February 2016

I am writing with reference to the above meeting to convey my utter dismay at the conduct of both Maureen Watt MSP and Professor Graham Leese Endocrinologist. Please treat this as a submission.

Professor Leese's demeanour displayed to all how uncomfortable he was, to the extent that one would wonder at the reason for this. For someone who is supposed to be a professional doctor, working in the interests of his patients, the mind absolutely boggles that he mentioned a conspiracy theory. Was this intended to belittle the entire matter?

Maureen Watt was totally unprepared for this meeting and stated that the current SIGN guidelines are pretty good, and that the Petitioner would have come up with the same guidelines herself. Why did she think the matter is still being considered if this were the case? She did not appear to know what she was talking about, where did her information come from? What a shameful waste of everybody's time.

I was very impressed with the members of the Committee (particularly MSPs Jackson Carlaw and Elaine Smith) and it was clear that they were completely aware of the farce that was taking place. I feel that Prof. Leese's performance will only have served to strengthen the growing sense of awareness that thyroid treatment throughout the UK is beyond appalling, and he certainly gave a taste of what thyroid patients have to put up with from doctors, despite the fact that for many, their lives are in pieces.

I live in Southampton and have been watching and waiting for the outcome of this petition in the hope that progress made will filter down to the rest of the UK. I myself was ill for 20 years post Radio-active Iodine treatment. My health deteriorated on Levothyroxine and the dosage was deleteriously reduced as the years went by due to the totally misguided introduction of the TSH only blood test, and the dangerous lack of knowledge amongst GPs and Endocrinologists. I now take Natural Desiccated Thyroid which I have to buy from abroad, and my health is improving all the time.

Thank you for your time and I watch with interest and great hope that positive progress will be made.

Yours faithfully

Caroline Mott