

PE1383/E

**PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF PE1393  
QUESTIONS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**NHS Ayrshire and Arran Letter of 21 December 2011**

**All NHS Area Health Boards**

- What are your views on the issues raised in the petition and during the discussions by the Committee on 6 September and 15 November?

**We would support the provision of contemporary evidence to define the extent and nature of the problem. This should take into consideration the pockets of evidence currently in existence and the progress on the action points set out in the 2003 guidance. Many areas have already responded to the recent heightened awareness of the issue, however, some activity to give a reasonable estimate of the prevalence of the issue per local authority would be helpful to support local service and policy development, as well as inform any continuous professional development needs of our staff.**

**The 2010 guidance gives high level guidance and with additional information from any research conducted CPCs should be allowed to develop their own guidance which relates to local practice, procedure and services.**