

PE1471/E

Date: 5 April 2013

PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE

T3.40

Scottish Parliament

Edinburgh

EH99 1SP

Dear Sir/Madam

CONSIDERATION OF PETITION [PE1471](#)

I can confirm that NHS Orkney supports the petition to establish specific young people's wards or rooms in hospitals for adolescents, and to ensure that staff receive adequate training to support young people's mental and emotional needs in hospital.

We support the view that the needs of children and young people differ from those of the adult population and their needs should be considered when admitted to hospital, but recognise the situation will be different in each area due to geography, length of stay and factors such as the classification of a hospital i.e Cottage Hospitals, Rural General Hospitals and District General Hospitals.

The staff at the Balfour Hospital in Orkney worked in partnership with NHS Education for Scotland (NES) to trial the training resources which are now available from NES for staff working with adolescence. All staff have access to this resource.

Yours Faithfully

Marie O'Sullivan