

**PE1471/Y**

**Children and Families Directorate**

Child and Maternal Health Division

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**The Scottish  
Government**  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

Andrew Howlett

Assistant Clerk to the Public Petitions Committee

By e-mail: petitions@scottish.parliament.uk

cc: anne.lillico@scotland.gsi.gov.uk



**LEGACY 2014**  
XX COMMONWEALTH GAMES  
SCOTLAND

Your ref:

Our ref:

8 October 2013

Dear Mr Howlett

**CONSIDERATION OF PETITION PE1471**

Thank you for your letter of 5 September 2013 requesting further information regarding the above petition.

I can confirm that, through NHS Education for Scotland (NES), a Training Needs Analysis in regard to adolescent care was undertaken. It was completed as a Learning Needs Analysis in 2009 following which NES was tasked with the development of an education resource which would support healthcare practitioners working with young people in the delivery of age appropriate care. Edgehill University were commissioned to develop the resource, and they were supported and guided by the established advisory group. The resource covers the areas identified by the learning needs analysis:

- Healthy Adolescent Development
- Young Person Friendly Services
- Adolescent Mental Healthcare
- Sexual Healthcare
- Substance Misuse and Abuse
- Transition Care

NES can ensure that all staff can access the education but cannot ensure that access is taken up. Governance for ensuring staff were appropriately trained and continued to be so trained lies with NHS Health Boards rather than NES.

The Committee will wish to note that The Children and Young People's Health Support Group discussed the importance of ensuring that the particular needs of young people in hospital are met at a recent meeting. Following which, the Scottish Government wrote to all Health Boards on 14 June 2013 reminding Boards of the recommendations contained within the Better Health Better Care: Hospital Services for Young People in Scotland. A copy of that letter is attached for your information.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

**GILLIAN GARVIE**

Address list attached

14 June 2013

Dear Colleague

## HOSPITAL SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN SCOTLAND

A recent meeting of the Children and Young People's Health Support Group highlighted the importance of ensuring that the particular care needs of young people in hospital are met. Guidance for NHS Boards on this issue was published by the Scottish Government on 5 May 2009 entitled "Better Health Better Care; Hospital Services for Young People in Scotland". Further copies of the report are available on the Scottish Government website at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/05/07130749/0>

This guidance makes a number of recommendations for NHS Boards and their regional planning partners. In particular, it highlights the importance of appropriate transition arrangements to ensure that the process of moving from paediatric to adult health services is as smooth as possible and happens when the young person is ready.

NHS Boards and partners should apply a Getting It Right For Every Child approach to assessment, analysis and planning in regard to the needs of young people in hospital, taking appropriate, proportionate and timely action to address issues, including transition.

In addition, a petition has been lodged with the Public Petitions Committee of the Scottish Parliament regarding the establishment of specific young people's wards or rooms in hospital for adolescents and the need to ensure that staff receive adequate training to address young people's mental and emotional needs.

If you have any queries regarding the above or would find it helpful to discuss further please contact Fiona McKinlay ([Fiona.McKinlay@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Fiona.McKinlay@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)).

Yours sincerely

**JOHN FROGGATT**  
Deputy Director

Address List

Chief Executives, NHS Boards

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