

PE1505/G

Petitioner Email of 9 October 2014

Dear Chris ,

Thank you for the notification that my group B Strep petition will be considered by the Public Petitions Committee at its meeting on Tuesday 28 October 2014.

I see that the responses dated 23 and 28 July 2014 respectively from NHS Health Scotland and the Children & Maternal Health Division of The Scottish Government state that these organisations worked with each other plus the Senior Medical Officer for Maternal and Women's Health, Senior Medical Officer for Children and Young People along with the petitioners to agree the following text which is to be added to the Ready Steady Baby! leaflet from 4 September 2014.

As petitioner, I was told late on 24 June 2014 that "Ready Steady Baby! is due for a reprint in September and we are currently in the process of collating minor amendments and undertaking factual accuracy checks. For this type of mini review, it is a fairly brief exercise which does not involve significant changes to materials and consultation with stakeholders and others is not included." and "There is a very tight timescale: text changes need to be submitted by close of play Monday 30 June to allow for a reprint in early September." The deadline for amendments was 30 June 2014.

I submitted suggested amendments on 30 June and was told that "Thank you for your comments. We're currently doing a mini review of RSB ahead of a more thorough rewrite that will start at the end of this year. At the moment we are just making minor amendments and factual accuracy checks and we have to incorporate these into the current text space, i.e. we can't add a whole lot more text than what is already there, we can only edit what is already there and maybe make some tweaks to formatting."

Few, if any, of my suggested amendments were incorporated into the final version.

My understanding was that the Petitions' Committee had wanted me to be consulted on the updating text on group B Strep for publication and the impression given in the letters from NHS Health Scotland and The Scottish Government implies that this consultation had resulted in changes to their original text. While it may be that my suggestions will be incorporated into a future version of the text, but I see no evidence that they have so far.

I would ask that the points raised in my [email of 10 June](#) and Group B Strep Support's [email of 16 June](#) are considered and discussed at the meeting on 28 October. I will be watching with interest.

Yours sincerely

Jackie Watt