

## **PE1577/R**

Scottish Government submission of 16 October 2019

Thank you for your email of 7 September 2019, regarding the above petition, which is looking for (1) an update on the timescales for the publication of the consultation report, (2) the extent to which the Action Plan will address the action called for in the petition, and (3) the explicit inclusion of cerebral palsy within the Action Plan.

1. As a Government, we are committed to ensuring people living with neurological conditions are able to access the best possible care and support, which allows them to live well on their own terms. That is why we have developed and will be implementing Scotland's first National Action Plan on Neurological Conditions, which has been produced in collaboration with the neurological community during 2018. This will be published in final form later this year and we will publish the consultation report at the same time.

Almost all respondents to the consultation agreed with the plan's vision and a large majority agreed that the most important priorities have been included in the plan. There were some comments of the need to improve clinical pathways and we have taken this on board in finalising the plan.

2. The plan contains a number commitments that will collectively will address the action called for in the petition.

This includes:

- Supporting shared decision making and personalised models of care
- Ensuring legislation, policy and guidance that Integration Authorities and the NHS use when planning and commissioning services are designed to support consistent, timely and appropriate provision of care and support for people with neurological conditions
- Embedding the Principles of Good Transitions, as a best practice framework for transitions for people living with neurological conditions
- Promoting the implementation of anticipatory care planning for people with neurological conditions
- Exploring the potential of national care frameworks and how these can inform neurological care and support.
- Supporting the implementation of the Healthcare Improvement Scotland General Standards for Neurological Care and Support 2019, which can be used for services to evaluate themselves against the standards.
- Test generic/neurological community based multi-disciplinary team models including new roles and arrangements for co-ordinating care and support
- Improving access to health care and support by working with the Scottish Access Collaborative for Neurology to develop nationally agreed, regionally and locally applied guidelines for health services and referral pathways for neurological conditions.
- Work with NHS Information Services Division and others to ensure a cohesive approach to capture the needs of and improve recording of neurological conditions so that they visible to the appropriate services and support better service planning.

3. As we have stated in the past, the plan is not condition specific. However it covers neuro conditions as defined by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and within it we have committed to work with stakeholders, including carers and relevant organisations, to explore how to enhance awareness and access to information/ support around neurological conditions.

I hope the Public Petitions Committee will find this information helpful.