

PE1577/S

Petitioner submission of 24 November 2019

In response to Cabinet Secretary's (Health & Sport) response of 17 October 2019

The committee sent me a letter asking me whether I have been involved with or consulted on the new Neurological Action Plan. I am aware of its existence, but I have not been involved in drafting the plan and I have not been consulted personally on the plan either. I have been trying to arrange a meeting with the Clinical Priorities team to discuss the plan, but this has not happened yet. The Clinical Priorities team wanted to wait for the Action Plan to be published and I have had personal and work commitments. I am hoping to arrange a meeting in the new year.

I have read the Scottish Government's response dated 17/10/19 and I am not convinced by their reply. Firstly, the action plan is not condition specific and I am not sure how a high-level document is going to help adults with cerebral palsy. Secondly if the action plan is such an important document why was I not involved in the creation of this plan? At the moment this plan is just words and has not been implemented. I want to see change on the ground and there has not been any at all. I feel the Scottish Government is hiding behind these action plans and meanwhile adults with cerebral palsy are suffering and having to fight for the care they deserve. I would like action not just words. I am happy to work with the Scottish Government, but I feel there needs to be funding and an NHS pilot scheme put in place to provide adults with cerebral palsy the care that they deserve. I fail to see how non-condition specific plans will solve the issues raised in this petition as cerebral palsy and the people living with it are unique.

I would like to ask the petitions committee to help me move this petition forward so that I can see some positive action from the Scottish Government.