

PE1775/E

Petitioner submission of 1 February 2021

Many thanks for your response. We understand the pressure that everyone is under during this pandemic and especially the members of the Government who need to coordinate all different strategic actions.

We do feel that the current legislation and guidance is appropriate and sufficient, however we have identified issues in their implementation. All the interested parties involved are very keen to put in place measures to improve school preparedness in the management of the severely allergic child but up to now, there are no available resources and implementation guidance to help schools implement Scottish Government advice.

A clear step by step 'manual' that guides school staff and offers troubleshooting if an issue arises, along with face-to-face training for the implementation of an allergy policy and emergency protocol are required. This should be generated centrally and be made available to all schools for mandatory implementation. Schools should be able to prove their competency towards a safer environment for pupils with allergies; their performance in this area should be measured yearly and they should receive constructive feedback along with recommendations for those areas of practice that require improvement.

We feel email/letter communication is not adequate to give a real dimension of the issue. We propose instead a stakeholder meeting that could bring together patients and parents/carers, schools, councils, NHS, academia and Scottish Government. We will be happy to share with all involved current data and challenges in school preparedness along with solutions which we feel that would not have an impact on other services. Please let us know if you would be open to a meeting with us.