

Mr Frank McAveety
Convener
Public Petitions Committee
TG.01
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

29 January 2010

Dear Mr McAveety,

St Margaret of Scotland Hospice (Petition PE1105)

I have for some considerable time now been writing to various investigative journalists asking if they would be prepared to conduct an investigation into the current matter that I have placed before you. I asked each journalist that I contacted if they were unable to help would they pass my request on to colleagues in the hope that one or more might come forward to assist me obtain all the information which I felt was being left unanswered. To be honest I do not know who this reporter Kenneth Roy is and I have never read the Scottish Review before but it would be right for an investigative journalist to go quietly about his/her business and not tell me or anyone involved, that they were employed in this investigation, so that they could work from a place of neutrality. So how Mr Roy came upon this investigation or why he chose to follow it up I cannot say. I only became aware of his investigation when I was sent these web links yesterday.

1. <http://www.scottishreview.net/KRoy198.html>
2. <http://www.scottishreview.net/HealthBoardletter199.html>
3. <http://www.scottishreview.net/GGCHB198.html>

I can however say that it makes very interesting reading and would ask you if your Committee might well like to ask some questions of the NHS GG&CHB, The Scottish Parliament and its respective Ministers, Glasgow City Council, James Walker [Leith] Ltd, Dundas Estates and Development Company and Southern Cross Healthcare after digesting what he has written.

I would respectfully ask that you consider obtaining information from the Care Commission in relation to any information this authority can give you for both organisations, namely St Margaret of Scotland Hospice and Southern Cross Healthcare. Information from the Care Commission would tell you the level of standards both organisations adhere to, if complaints have been lodged against either, if there have been any actions taken against either for poor standards of care. The health board is after all now picking one organisation over the other without I believe checking with this authority to ensure that excellence of care is maintained. As a Scottish People surely we have a Right, knowing that we are currently receiving and obtaining 'excellence' at 'very very little cost' to the public purse want to ENSURE that we do not find ourself with a "less than excellent" and "more expensive" option simply to meet with unstated and unqualified reasons.

Yours sincerely

Marjorie McCance
Campaign Manager