

Healthcare Policy and Strategy Directorate
Quality Division

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Franck David
Assistant Clerk to the Public Petitions Committee
TG.01
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Your ref: PE1105

20 August 2010

Dear Mr David

I refer to your letter of 22 April 2010 regarding Petition 1105, submitted by Mrs Marjorie McCance on behalf of the St Margaret of Scotland Hospice.

You specifically requested that the Scottish Government submit a response to the Public Petitions Committee by 20 August 2010 concerning the outcomes of the review of the guidance on adult hospice funding set out in HDL (2003)18.

The review of funding of adult independent hospices was undertaken by a short life working group whose membership included representatives from NHS Boards and from the independent hospice community. The group's final report has been submitted to the Scottish Government.

We are currently considering the working group's recommendations and plan to engage with a range of stakeholders in order to determine the next steps including revision of the existing guidance as currently described in HDL (2003)18.

We would propose to write to the Committee again when the final position has been determined.

Yours sincerely

COLIN BROWN
Deputy Director