

PE1683/P

Twins Trust submission of 25 January 2021

Twins Trust met with the Ministers team on Thursday last week to discuss the possibility of funding or carrying out research as discussed when the minister was called to give evidence. Unfortunately, they said “they wouldn’t conduct any bespoke research. They wouldn’t have the capacity to.” which is disappointing.

We did however discuss the following points and are waiting to hear back now on the action points listed below.

Mental Health

Parent Club have a directory that details of the organisations that provide mental health services

- **Action** - Scottish officials to send through the link to parentclub directory of mental health services
- **Action** – Scottish officials to put Twins Trust in contact with the mental health team

Best Start Sub Group

Group were investing in research across the maternity and neonatal landscape and are commissioning research to look at the support available for women and the impact of the pandemic.

- **Action** - Best Start team to be asked to include multiple birth families in the survey specifically

Neonatal Care Neonatal Expenses fund

- **Action** - Scottish officials to look into whether accommodation is included for families in the neonatal expenses fund. If it doesn’t cover accommodation and hospital accommodation isn’t available, what should families do?

Cost of Pregnancy pathway

We were told that the cost of the pregnancy pathway is currently being looked at. Twins Trust is really keen to be involved with this.

- **Action** - Twins trust to be kept aware as to how we can help with this

Maternity Liaison Committees

These will work in a similar way to maternity voices in England and help to give small populations a voice.

- **Action** - Scottish officials to send the contact for the above project

Additional Actions

- Scottish Officials to send over the link to the Chief Scientist grant scheme
- Twins Trust to share any surveys with the families they support
- Scottish officials to consider multiple births in any forthcoming surveys and on policy-making committees
- Scottish Officials to speak to their public health colleagues about the poverty survey that’s being commissioned
- Scottish officials to report back on nursery deposit scheme of 2018/2019

I apologise on the delay of this email but wanted to wait until we had the meeting and give the attendees a chance to forward on some information before I replied to the committee.

I have heard nothing back as of yet, but I know it is very early days.