

Sigrid Robinson Assistant Clerk Public Petitions Committee Scottish Parliament EDINBURGH EH99 1SP



18 December 2015

Dear Sigrid

CONSIDERATION OF PETITION PE1493

Thank you for your email of 8 December to Carole Finnigan seeking a written update on the work currently being undertaken in respect of the above petition.

As the Committee is aware, the Scottish Government wished to seek the view of patients and their families on this important issue as we had not heard any views from this group either as part of the petition or separately.

The Scottish Health Council have held several discussion groups to gather views from across Scotland. We understand, however, that there was an unusually high drop-off rate for attendees meaning fewer people than anticipated have taken part. A further series of discussion groups are now taking place. We expect to see the outcomes of this work in the new year.

I hope this information is helpful and as we have stated from the outset, the Scottish Government remain happy to consider any recommendations from the Committee on the petition.

Yours sincerely

KATHRYN FERGUSSON Head of Medicines Branch





