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Mr David Stewart MSP
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The Scottish Parliament
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In 2014 Scotland Welcomes the World



Our ref: 2014/0005367
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Alex Neil

PE1480 BY AMANDA KOPEL ON ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA AWARENESS

Thank you for your letter of 6 February regarding the above petition.

The Committee will wish to note that I will be making a statement to Parliament later this month which will encompass The Scottish Government's response to the independent review we commissioned on NHS Continuing Care; and the recommendations coming out of the National Task Force on the future of residential care in Scotland. As part of this statement, I will also address the issues raised by Mrs Kopel's petition around Free Personal Care for under 65s, including those with dementia.

After I make this statement, I will be able to write to the Committee setting out the detail on how and by when we propose to address the issues raised in the petition.

I confirm that I had a constructive and valuable meeting with Mrs Kopel before Christmas and I will be meeting her again later this month.

ALEX NEIL