

# **PE2086/B: Recognise the vaccine injured and offer appropriate treatment**

## **Petitioner submission, 25 March 2024**

Thank you to the Scottish Government for its response.

My petition seeks to address two specific things:

1. That vaccine injured individuals be recognised.
2. That the appropriate treatment be offered to the vaccine injured.

In the submission the Scottish Government make a half hearted attempt at the first part of the petition. However, this petition is not about how many individuals have been injured by the vaccine, it's simply to point out the fact they exist. I submitted the petition, as it is crystal clear that many Scottish people have been affected, and The Scottish Vaccine Injured Group is a testament to that. Hence, the second part of the petition; that treatment be offered to anyone suffering injury due to the vaccine.

The Scottish Government claims that it can be difficult to make the link between the conditions suffered and the vaccinations.

The injured people in question have actioned what was asked of them and have suffered ill health, or worse, as a consequence. They do not wish for sympathy, but merely to have their experiences heard, believed, and receive access to appropriate treatment. For this to occur, resources need to be available. Individuals with Long Covid were given time and a platform to be heard by the Covid Recovery Committee. This allowed Long Covid sufferers to discuss and inform others of their conditions, and gain information and resources allocated to aid them. My petition seeks the same time and platform for the vaccine injured to speak about their experiences.

As for the other remarks around vaccine safety, consent, and making complaints to the NHS, these are all pertinent issues for those who have been injured. However, in relation to this petition they are irrelevant. The vaccine injured exist, and they deserve the same respect and recognition as everyone else who has been affected by the pandemic. Recently, I submitted a FOI request to the Scottish Parliament asking if any discussion around individuals who have been injured by the COVID-19 vaccinations had even taken place in Parliament. To which I was informed that there was no information held, as these discussions have never occurred. I believe that the Scottish Parliament exists for all of its citizens to be heard and therefore I will persist with this matter.

I hope the Scottish Government will continue to engage with this petition, and take the time to meet with the Vaccine Injured Group and hear their experiences, as this could be easily arranged. This is a genuine offer for something good to come from political engagement with Parliament and I believe this could be a very helpful first step.