

Jackie Baillie MSP
Scottish Parliament
M1.13
Jackie.baillie.msp@parliament.scot

Clare Haughey MSP
Health, Social Care and Sport Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP
hscs.committee@parliament.scot

Dear Convener,

I write on behalf of Norma Roberts, one of the administrators of the Scottish Mesh Survivors Facebook Group, who contacted you directly on 11 May 2023 to ask that the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee hear additional evidence from women with lived experience of mesh.

As you will be aware from Ms Roberts' email, a recent satisfaction survey conducted at the Glasgow mesh clinic was answered by just 23 people despite hundreds of women across Scotland being eligible for removal of polypropylene mesh implants.

Other survivors have shared reports that their appointments are being cancelled at the last minute, that there were empty waiting rooms at the clinic and that they are experiencing wait times of 82 weeks for what is supposed to be urgent referral.

Written PQs answered by the Scottish Government reveal that just 13 women have travelled for mesh removal surgery since the process began last year, and survivors feel that available aftercare is unacceptably poor. This is extremely concerning and suggests that the Complex Mesh Surgical Service is not working as it should be.

I would be grateful if the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee would allow survivors to give evidence either in person or remotely before the Committee concludes its' work.

Yours sincerely,

Jackie

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jackie Baillie', written in a cursive style.

MSP for Dumbarton and Deputy Leader and Spokesperson for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care and Drugs Policy