

PE1517/TT

Maureen McLaughlan submission of 28 August 2017

I need to advise you of my grave concern that mesh will continue to harm women and destroy more families. As a citizen I love my country and see a lot of good being done. However, I feel very let down regarding the ongoing saga surrounding mesh and almost didn't contact you as i feel my voice doesn't matter, only the dollar sign matters.

Having worked full time for 24 years in the social housing sector I got up every day knowing I was in a profession I loved. I had power to help people have a better life and I made sure I always did what was morally right. My life was turned upside down when I was implanted with plastic mesh. Within a year it had hardened and cut through my vagina. The 4 anchors are jaggig my sides as I type this. I'm so medicated at times I have wondered if it's all worth it. If I didn't have a family i'm unsure if I would still be here. Chronic pain and medication is my life now. I should still be working and paying taxes and planning things with my kids. My 13 year old son often has to take on the role of caring for my other kids as i'm unable to do so.

How dare you think that not completely banning mesh is acceptable. The Final Report exposes women to unnecessary harm, so listen to your citizens and care about our future. Stand up to big pharma and do the right thing for us. Time is running out for mesh and wouldn't it be great if Scotland was the one to call time on it. The world would take notice and no longer would I fear it is a 'whitewash', despite 97 MSPs signing our pledge poster; "Say No To Mesh Whitewash".

Doesn't it strike you that the Final Report is flawed when we have saw the resignations of 4 key members; former Independent Chair Dr Lesley Wilkie, Expert Clinician Dr Wael Agur and Scottish Mesh Survivors Patient Representatives Elaine Holmes and Olive McIlroy. Doesn't it also concern you that a serving NHS Medical Director Dr Tracey Gillies was appointed as Chairperson and that many claim that evidence was omitted, ignored and/or hidden.

Today my son told me in anger that all i did was sit and look at my tablet. I was deeply hurt as he has missed out on me showing him a good life. Mesh has robbed my sons of a decent life and it breaks my heart.

Please be brave and remember why you went into office. Help people if you can.