

PE1627/J

Scottish Government submission of 25 May 2017

Thank you for your letter of 21 April in which you have sought clarification from the Scottish Government on petition [PE1627](#) in relation to how the petitioner can contribute to the Chief Medical Officer's review of the consent process for people who receive care and support in Scotland as well as what funding is in place for the Links Worker Programme in Scotland and the number and location of general practices participating in the programme.

I am happy to clarify these matters and to provide some additional information which I hope is helpful.

I noted in my earlier response that the consent process for people we care for and support in Scotland is currently being reviewed by the Scottish Government, General Medical Council (GMC) and the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges to update advice to clinicians following the Montgomery Supreme Court judgement. The GMC has a defined process for reviewing guidance, which will be followed by a period of external review and consultation prior to publication. Patient groups are already represented in the process, and the team leading the review will consider how people, including the petitioner, can be further involved as proposals are developed.

In terms of the Links Worker Programme, the Scottish Government has committed to recruiting an additional 250 Community Links Workers, of which 40 will be in place by September 2017. Forty general practices will participate in the first year, with Links Workers placed in general practices in deprived areas of Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee and Inverclyde. We are also working with practices in Ayrshire, Fife, Tayside and Lanarkshire. The budget is currently going through a Parliamentary approval process and therefore cannot yet be confirmed.

I hope this is helpful to the Committee's consideration of Petition PE1627 but would be happy to provide further information if that is necessary.