

PE1517/III

Petitioners' submission of 10 October 2019

We respectfully request that the Public Petitions Committee continues to hold government to account with regards to the mesh removal service. The failure of Scottish Government Officials to keep their promises to improve the service provided to mesh-injured women has left our hopes shattered.

Last week we pulled out of the Scottish Government Short-Life Accountable Officers Group. We informed Dr Wael Agur, our representative in the Group, of our decision that we no longer wish to be associated with this group. Please see our letter and his response at the end of this letter.

This is the fifth Scottish Government group we have participated in since 2013 and we have regretted participation in each and every one of them. The Scottish Government has not learnt anything from the Britton Report that heavily criticised the way it handled the mesh crisis.

We would like to request that your Committee invites Dr Agur to give further evidence and participate in any questions on his involvement as our representative in the Scottish Government Group. We would like to request that your Committee also invites Dr Dionysios Veronikis, Mesh Removal Surgeon in Missouri, to give evidence and participate in any questions on his correspondence with Scottish Government officials.

The Public Petitions Committee is the only group that actually listens to the mesh-injured women and their families and does its best to help us – thank you.

There have been several significant developments in the mesh scandal since the last evidence session of the Committee in September 2017 and we strongly believe it would be beneficial for MSPs in the Committee to understand these developments and to continue to support our safety campaign.

Annexe A

We would like to inform you that we have decided to withdraw our input into the government group tasked with improving the care for the mesh-injured women in Scotland.

With the serious failure of leadership and lack of consideration to the suffering of many women, we are no longer able to engage and to present any of our views to government officials.

We would like to thank you and your colleagues for all your efforts in conducting the formal evaluation of the Scottish Mesh Complications Service and in presenting our views to government officials on 14th June.

We regret the failure of government to act on our recommendations and we will be going back to the Public Petition Committee.
Sincere thanks once again for your help.

<http://www.scottishmeshsurvivors.com/>

Re: Representation of the SMS views to Scottish Government Officials

Thank you for the recent letter requesting the withdrawal of the above role.

I regret how the situation developed and appreciate the reasons behind your decision. I was invited by The Cabinet Secretary for Health & Sport in April 2019 to represent your views to the Scottish Government Short-Life Accountable Officers Group. I will, therefore, await further instructions.

It was my pleasure working with you on the relevant national service evaluation and on articulating your views to government officials.