



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee

Elaine Holmes and Olive McIlroy

Via email:

All correspondence c/o:
Citizen Participation and Public Petitions
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9 September 2021

Dear Elaine and Olive,

CONSIDERATION OF PETITION [PE1517: Polypropylene Mesh Medical Devices](#)

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to:

- 1. Suspend use of polypropylene Transvaginal Mesh (TVM) procedures*
- 2. Initiate a Public Inquiry and/or comprehensive independent research to evaluate the safety of mesh devices using all evidence available, including that from across the world*
- 3. Introduce mandatory reporting of all adverse incidents by health professionals*
- 4. Set up a Scottish Transvaginal Mesh implant register with view to linking this up with national and international registers*
- 5. Introduce fully Informed Consent with uniformity throughout Scotland's Health Boards*
- 6. Write to the MHRA and ask that they reclassify TVM devices to heightened alert status to reflect ongoing concerns worldwide.*

The Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee considered your petition on 8 September. At that meeting, the Committee agreed to close your petition on the basis that the Scottish Government—

- has published the Transvaginal Mesh Removal (Cost Reimbursement) (Scotland) Bill to allow it to set up a scheme which could pay back people who have paid private healthcare costs to have their transvaginal mesh implant removed; and
- has and continues to take a range of actions which aim to address several of the key actions called for in the petition.

During its consideration, the Committee paid tribute to not only you both for your own considerable personal efforts and persistence over so many years in achieving all that you have, but to all the women who have also shared their experiences, and in so doing, have powerfully raised awareness of the impact of these devices.

The Committee also noted the questions that you raised in your most recent submission. In closing your petition, the Committee also agreed to write to the Cabinet Secretary to highlight these outstanding questions. We will forward his response once it has been received.

The [Official Report](#) (a formal written record of what is said in public meetings) will be published by 6pm on 14 September. A recording of the meeting is available to view [online](#).

The Committee would welcome feedback on your experience of the petitions process. I **attach** a feedback form and would be grateful if this could be returned to us using the email above.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank you for petitioning the Scottish Parliament.

Yours sincerely

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

Jackson Carlaw MSP
Convener
Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee