

Petitioner submission of 12 February 2024

PE1999/H: Fully implement the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

It is my belief that in her submission PE1999/F, the Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport made statements which were designed to mislead. In particular, the Minister stated that the Government was committed to establishing a new Mental Health and Capacity Reform Programme which would ensure that Scotland's mental health and capacity legislation better reflects international human rights and standards.

The Minister failed to indicate that among the aims of this reform programme would be one to end the giving of sedatives to elderly care home residents in order to make them easier to look after. I cannot believe that Scotland's mental health law can be compatible with international human rights if it permits potentially harmful drugs to be given to care home residents for the convenience of staff. It is my hope that the Scottish Parliament will act to end this human rights abuse.