

**PE1285/M**

**Health and Social Care Integration Directorate**  
Primary Care Division

T: 0131-244 2305  
E: frank.strang@scotland.gsi.gov.uk



Anne Peat  
Clerk to the Public Petitions Committee  
Scottish Parliament  
T3.40  
EDINBURGH  
EH99 1SP



Your ref: PE1285  
21 May 2012

Dear Anne

Thank you for your letter of 2 May 2012 regarding an ongoing petition (PE1285) about the costs of calling NHS 24 from a mobile phone. You sought a reply by the end of May.

The Committee posed the question:

***When does the Scottish Government expect to make a decision on the use of the 111 number?***

As the Committee will be aware from previous correspondence, we intend to make a decision on adopting the number this year and this will, in part, be informed by the formal evaluation report being prepared by the University of Sheffield. While it had been intended that this report would be published in the spring of this year, colleagues from the Department of Health in England have advised that this timeline has shifted and it now seems more likely that publication will be over the summer.

We will ensure to keep the Committee updated in relation to Scottish Government considerations on adopting the 111 number. I hope this is helpful, please get in touch if you require further information at this stage.

Yours sincerely

**FRANK STRANG**  
Deputy Director for Primary Care