

PE1399/Q

Shetland NHS Board

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Date 20th January 2012

Your Ref

Our Ref RR/LJH/PP 1398/1399/1401

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Dear Sir/Madam

I refer to your recent correspondence regarding petitions 1398/1399/1401. In relation to NHS Shetland I can confirm that NHS Shetland has an approved Access to Medicines Policy which has majored on the introduction of newly licensed medicines. This policy is now fully operational, has been impact assessed and is closely aligned to guidance provided in CEL (2010) 17. The Individual Patient Treatments Requests (IPTR) process has been reviewed and is integral to the new policy.

We have recently taken the decision to review the IPTR process to ensure it reflects an appropriate emphasis on all treatments rather than just medicines. It is anticipated this review will be completed by the end of February 2012.

Yours faithfully

Ralph Roberts
CHIEF EXECUTIVE