

S1W-32846 - Mary Scanlon (Highlands and Islands) (Con) (Date Lodged Friday, December 20, 2002):

To ask the Scottish Executive whether any market research has been carried out to measure what percentage of the public are in favour of complementary medicine being made widely available on the NHS since the MORI poll in 1989, showing 74% of the public as in favour.

Answered by Mary Mulligan (Tuesday, January 14, 2003): The Executive has not commissioned any such market research, and has not been made aware of any recent poll on the subject. There is no barrier to the provision of complementary medicine through the NHS in Scotland. Decisions on whether to provide any particular form of complementary medicine are for NHS boards to make, based on their assessment of local needs.