As you may be aware, the Petitions Committee and the Health Committee have held two joint evidence sessions on the petition calling for the meningitis B vaccine to be offered to all children. On 22 March, among other witnesses, the Committees heard from Professor John Cairns, who is chairing a Department of Health working group on Cost-Effectiveness Methodology for Immunisation Programmes and Procurements (CEMIPP), which was set up to review the methodology used to determine the cost-effectiveness of vaccines. Professor Cairns explained in his evidence that the working group will be presenting its report to the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (at the beginning of June) and also to the Department of Health.

The petition was signed by 823,345 people and there is obviously a huge amount of interest in this subject among members of the public, as well as Members of Parliament. It is our view that the final report should be published by the Department of Health. We would be very grateful indeed if you could confirm that you intend to publish the report, and give an indication of when this is likely to happen.

In due course, we will be placing this letter and your reply in the public domain.

Helen Jones MP  
Chair of the Petitions Committee

Sarah Wollaston MP  
Chair of the Health Committee
From Jane Ellison MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Public Health

Richmond House
79 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2NS
020 7210 4850

Helen Jones MP
Chair, Petitions Committee

Dr Sarah Wollaston MP
Chair, Health Select Committee

Letter from Petitions and Health Committees – publication of CEMIPP report

Thank you for your letter of 13 April 2016 regarding the report of the Cost Effectiveness Methodology for Immunisation Programmes and Procurements (CEMIPP) Working Group.

I am grateful to your Committees for hearing evidence on meningococcal B (MenB) vaccination.

You ask whether the CEMIPP Working Group’s final report will be published by the Department of Health. I can confirm that we will be publishing this report, and we hope to be able to do so later in the year.

I look forward to discussing these important issues further during the MenB debate on 25 April.

JANE ELLISON