

26 September 2008

### Perfect Choice supports the re-launch of the Scotland Patients Association at the Scottish Parliament

Perfect Choice was delighted to support the Scotland Patients Association (SPA) at a reception at the Scottish Parliament on 10 September which provided an opportunity to raise awareness of the good work that is carried out by the SPA.

The SPA is an independent self funding association which is there to help and support all patients in Scotland who need and request their help. Many issues of all levels of complexity arise out of contact with the NHS, the private sector and the local authorities and the SPA is there to work on behalf of patients when they are often at their most vulnerable. The reception was hosted on behalf of the SPA by Executive Director, Dr Jean Turner and Chairperson and Marketing Director, Miss Margaret G.S. Watt.



SPA reception at The Scottish Parliament

The prestigious occasion was sponsored by Margo Macdonald Independent MSP, who is the Patron of SPA, and who is very well known in Scotland for her independent spirit and understanding of long-term and chronic medical conditions. Among the gathering of over 100 people were many MSPs and a strong NAFD contingent which included National President, Graham Lymn and Scottish Area President, Gerald Boyle.

SPA was endorsed by Margo MacDonald who praised the valuable support that SPA provides to individuals and families in Scotland at a time when they may be at their lowest point and need guidance. The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing and Deputy First Minister for Scotland, Miss Nicola Sturgeon, also expressed her appreciation of the work that SPA carries out in support of patients from all communities. The re-launch gave Dr Turner the opportunity to set out the aims of SPA and the importance patients and their families put on the fact that SPA is independent, and not funded by government.

Miss Margaret Watt thanked NAFD and Perfect Choice for their support and encouragement during the re-launch of the SPA. Perfect Choice Funeral Plans are working with the SPA

to help those patients, who wish to organise their funeral arrangements in advance, set up a pre-payment plan with an NAFD member firm. The SPA is intending to extend the arrangements with Perfect Choice to their connections with credit unions in Scotland which will help further raise the profile of Perfect Choice Funeral Plans in Scotland.

Graham Lymn also welcomed the involvement of the SPA with NAFD and Perfect Choice and explained the important role that funeral directors play in ensuring that funeral arrangements are organised professionally whilst demonstrating compassion and understanding with the families involved.



Graham Lymn -  
(NAFD National President)



Nicola Sturgeon - (MSP &  
Deputy First Minister for Scotland)

Dr Jean Turner also expressed her thanks to Perfect Choice and to Ecclesiastical for their sponsorship regarding the re-launch buffet and thanked everyone, saying that “the evening had been a great success and she was delighted with the number of people who had taken the trouble to attend the reception in recognition of the work that is carried out by the SPA”.

“The SPA relies on the support of professional business partners which can enhance the service that they provide to patients in Scotland. Working with NAFD and Perfect Choice is certainly helping us move forward very positively and we are delighted to be working with such professional and caring organisations”.



Gerald Boyle (NAFD Scottish Area President), Dr Jean Turner (Executive Director of SPA), Tony McAndrew (Marketing Manager of Perfect Choice), Graham Lymn (NAFD National President)