

Mark Drakeford AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-494
Ein cyf/Our ref MD/00860/14

William Powell AM
Chair
Petitions Committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

5 March 2014

Dear William

Thank you for your letter regarding Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (UHB) being allocated funding from the Health Technologies Fund for a robotic surgery system at the University Hospital of Wales for treatment for prostate problems.

You have asked about ensuring equal access to treatment across Wales. Currently patients in South Wales do not have access to robot assisted minimally invasive surgery. This contrasts to the position in North Wales where patients travel to Manchester for robot assisted surgery where it has been commissioned at the Christie Hospital.

Cardiff & Vale UHB proposed the development of a central service across South Wales based on draft National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines and evidence from the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) which set out a minimum of 150 cases per annum.

Cardiff & Vale UHB is in the process of procuring the first robot for the treatment of prostate cancer and establishing a regional service, which draws in activity and consultant support from the South Wales region, particularly from Abertawe Bro Morgannwg and Aneurin Bevan UHBs. As such, the proposed development would ensure that there is no inequity in access to this specialist service in Wales.

Best wishes
Mark

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Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

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