

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-04-532
Ein cyf/Our ref: MD/03323/14

William Powell AM
Chair
Petitions Committee Stephen.george@wales.gov.uk

9 September 2014

Dear William,

Thank you for your letter of 1 September regarding Petition P-04-532 about specialised neuromuscular services.

The committee may be aware that we published the Neurological Conditions Delivery Plan on 8 May setting out our expectations for the care of people with neurological conditions including those with neuromuscular disease.

The Neurological Conditions Delivery Plan provides a framework for action by health boards and their partners. It sets out the Welsh Government's expectations for the planning and delivery of person-centred care and focuses on meeting population need, tackling variation in access to services and reducing inequalities across seven themes:

- Raising awareness of neurological conditions
- Timely diagnosis of neurological conditions
- Fast and effective care
- Living with a neurological condition
- Children and young people
- Improving information
- Targeting research

Health boards will now develop and implement their own plans to deliver well co-ordinated services for patients. Specialised care needs to be well connected to local services, providing better patient experience and outcomes. In particular, it is essential that the NHS and its partners focus on meeting population needs, reducing inequalities in health and variation in access to services across Wales. The issues identified by the Muscular Dystrophy Campaign will be considered as part of the implementation of the plan.

With regard to the new chair of the Welsh Neuromuscular Network this is a matter for the NHS, however, I understand that discussions are ongoing to identify a new Chair.

Best wishes,

Mark,

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