

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-04-460  
Ein cyf/Our ref MD/03562/13

William Powell AM  
Chair Petitions Committee  
Ty Hywel  
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17 December 2013

*Dear William*

Thank you for your letter of 6 December on behalf of the Petitions Committee regarding Petition P-04-460 about specialised medicines delivered through the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC) and for sight of the associated correspondence.

A review of the appraisal of orphan and ultra-orphan medicines in Wales has been carried out. The findings from the review provided a series of recommendations for the improvement of the appraisal process, including equity of access to orphan and ultra-orphan medicines across the UK. The review is open for public consultation until 23 December 2013 and I would encourage the petitioner to respond. I will make a statement early in the New Year on the next steps arising from the report. I have also announced a review of the Individual Patient Funding Request progress and officials are now progressing this.

I share your concern at the lack of response from WHSSC and note your invitation to them to give oral evidence to the Committee. I would hope they are able to answer your questions and provide the Committee with some reassurance about the issues raised.

*Yours sincerely  
Mark*

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

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