

Our Ref: AG/SG/cb Direct Line: 01633 435958 20 May 2014

Mr Stephen George Petitions Committee Clerk

C/o Email: Stephen.George@wales.gov.uk

Dear Mr George,

## Re: Petition from Muscular Dystrophy Campaign

Further to the letter from the Committee Chair on the above petition, dated 17 March 2014, I apologise for the delay in responding and would offer the following comments.

You may be aware that Aneurin Bevan University Health Board currently hosts the Wales Neuromuscular Network and that I Chair the Network Board. I have, therefore, been centrally involved in the development of both the Network Vision Document and associated business case for investment, which are referenced within the recently launched Neurological Conditions Delivery Plan. I have worked closely with my Health Board Chief Executive colleagues in championing the work of the Network and the requirements of the Delivery Plan going forward.

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board has also demonstrated practical support for the Network by agreeing to temporarily fund an increase in hours for the two part-time Family Care Advisors, a funding priority within the Vision Document, and in leading the necessary organisation processes for the allocation of Welsh Government capital funding to the Network for 2014/15.

## **Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Aneurin Bevan**

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Clearly, in responding to the investment priorities cited within the petition, Health Boards face difficult decisions in balancing competing priorities against a background of significant current and forecasted financial challenges.

I trust that the information provided is helpful.

Yours sincerely

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Dr Andrew Goodall Prif Weithredwr/ Chief Executive