

P-03-222 National Osteoporosis Society 12/03/10

As part of the Petitions Committee's current consideration of P-03-222, I would be grateful if you could bring members' attention to new evidence which has emerged regarding the provision of Fracture Liaison Services in Wales.

The All-Wales Osteoporosis Advisory Group (WOAG), supported by the National Osteoporosis Society, has recently launched a report entitled the 'All-Wales Audit of Secondary Prevention of Osteoporotic Fractures 2009'. This highlights a national shortfall in services for people with osteoporosis and/or at risk of fractures in Wales. I attach a copy for the Committee's information.

The audit shows that of the Welsh NHS hospitals that receive fracture patients, only a quarter provide an FLS for outpatient fracture patients. Just 40% provide an FLS for inpatient fracture patients. The report also describes how Health Boards and local authorities can make net cost-savings over a five-year period if they implement the National Service Framework (NSF) for Older People falls and fractures standard.

I also attach a copy of a separate information sheet: this outlines the level of fracture services currently provided at each Welsh NHS hospital currently receiving fracture patients.

I hope that the Committee finds this update useful. In light of the current review of the NSF for Older People, I have shared this information with Health Inspectorate Wales. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries or require further information.