

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-04-587
Ein cyf/Our ref MD/03435/15

William Powell AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

committeebusiness@wales.gsi.gov.uk

18 December 2015

Dear William,

Thank you for your letter of 26 November on behalf of the Petitions Committee in relation to Petition P-04-587 - A dedicated support team for ME/CFS and Fibromyalgia sufferers in South East Wales.

Following the report on myalgic encephalopathy/chronic fatigue syndrome and fibromyalgia (CFS/ME and FM) published last year, an all-Wales implementation group has been established and is taking forward the report's recommendations. Membership comprises of health board clinical leads and patient representatives from Fibromyalgia Wales and Working for ME in Wales (WAMES).

All health boards in Wales have nominated an executive board member and clinical lead to oversee and take forward the recommendations of the report. Health boards are progressing with the establishment of local multi-disciplinary stakeholder groups to develop effective care pathways, raise awareness of the condition, increase timely diagnosis and share good practice within the NHS in Wales. Health boards are currently preparing three-year action plans setting out how they deliver services, which meet the needs of their population.

Another recommendation is to raise awareness of ME/CFS and FM in primary care settings to support timely diagnosis and effective management of the condition. The implementation group considers this a key recommendation and is discussing ways in which it can support primary care teams to manage service delivery locally.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

I understand the ME Support in South Glamorgan (MESIIG) representatives have recently met with the chair of the ME/CFS/FM implementation group and my officials to discuss service provision in South East Wales. MESIG is welcome to stay in contact with officials about the progress of this work.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads "Mark".

Mark Drakeford AC / AM

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