

Health and Social Services Committee

HSS(2)-08-05(p.2a)

Date: Wednesday 22 June 2005

Venue: Committee Room 2, National Assembly for Wales

Title: The National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Wales) Regulations 2005 - Points of Clarification and Proposed Amendments raised by Members

1. The Committee is scrutinising the Regulations in accordance with the protocol for dealing with secondary legislation agreed by the Committee on 11 June 2003 (Paper HSS(2)-01-03(p2c)), whereby members notify in advance any queries they have or amendments they wish to make. Five points of clarification have been raised, and no amendments have been proposed.

Points of Clarification raised by Plaid Cymru

1. From which budget line is the funding for this policy derived?
2. What representations or assessments has the Minister made or received regarding a possible increase in prescription costs for repeat prescription patients that have arisen following changes in GP prescribing practice that has led to limiting the amount of medicine prescribed per prescription?
3. Can the Minister detail what progress has been made in establishing a definition for 'chronic conditions' and can the Minister detail for what regulations is this definition required?
4. Can the Minister detail any limitations on the availability of certain medicines in Wales, but are available in England, that have been established since 2003?
5. Can the Minister detail changes in the cost of primary care drugs since 1999?

Committee Service

June 2005