

Eluned Morgan AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Jayne Bryant MS
Chair of Children, Young People and Education Committee

4 March 2022

Dear Jayne,

Following the Children, Young People and Education Committee's scrutiny of the Draft Budget on 13th January, I agreed to write to you with the information we have currently available in respect of NHS expenditure on children and young people. The information that is available relates to services provided by Welsh NHS organisations, and does not include any expenditure on Welsh children treated in England.

The information is comprised from two sources:

- Welsh NHS Costing Returns which detail total specialty costs for paediatric services (paediatric medicine, paediatric surgery, child & adolescent psychiatry and all paediatric community services).
- In addition, Patient Level Costing returns which detail costs for any patients under 18 years identified from any other specialties treated in admitted patient care, outpatient or emergency department settings.

The cost data available only covers hospital-based services and some specific community services for children and young people. There is no age-related cost data available for primary care services, where we would expect the majority of healthcare for children and young people to be provided. This would include childhood immunisation campaigns for which separate cost data is not currently available.

There are also known data quality issues with the cost data we do have available, especially around population of age indicator field, so the expenditure identified from patient level costing data will be the minimum level for these services. All costs are fully absorbed and therefore include direct and indirect service costs as well as estates and other overhead costs.

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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.

A summary of the costs for the most recent three years for which information is available is detailed below:

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Specialty/Subspecialty	£000	£000	£000
NICU & SCBU	£ 46,694	£ 49,974	£ 53,365
PICU & PHDU	£ 6,954	£ 7,207	£ 7,672
Paediatric Medicine	£ 121,278	£ 133,141	£ 153,430
Paediatric Surgery	£ 6,868	£ 7,021	£ 6,748
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry	£ 46,024	£ 56,805	£ 62,742
Paediatric Medical Services	£ 15,710	£ 17,503	£ 17,787
Paediatric Community Programmes	£ 2,802	£ 1,899	£ 2,317
Paediatric Home Delivery Drugs	£ 4,683	£ 2,640	£ 7,917
Health Visiting	£ 38,760	£ 41,863	£ 45,183
School Nursing	£ 13,638	£ 14,258	£ 14,847
Child Protection & Family Health Workers	£ 7,195	£ 8,861	£ 10,876
Total for children's specialties	£ 310,605	£ 341,172	£ 382,884
Treatment of <18 in other specialties	£ 95,321	£ 92,856	£ 100,524
Total expenditure on <18	£ 405,926	£ 434,028	£ 483,407
Total expenditure on all ages	4,345,095	4,512,359	5,089,899
Percentage spend on <18	9.3%	9.6%	9.5%

Identified expenditure on children accounts for just under 10% of total NHS expenditure on the services for which cost data exists. The costs of primary care services for which no data is available accounts for approximately one third of total NHS expenditure.

I will be happy to provide further updates on NHS expenditure on an annual basis as part of our budget evidence.

Yours sincerely,



Eluned Morgan AS/MS

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