

**Y Pwyllgor Iechyd a  
Gofal Cymdeithasol**

—  
**Health and Social Care  
Committee**

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Julie Morgan MS  
Deputy Minister for Social Services  
Welsh Government

21 April 2023

Dear Julie

### All-Wales hospital discharge policy and associated guidance

Recommendation 3 in our [report](#) on the Welsh Government's draft budget 2023-24 asked for information about how long the revised guidance issued on 30 December 2022 that patients may be discharged while waiting for a social care assessment or without a care package being in place was expected to remain in effect.

In your [response](#) to our recommendation you clarified that the letter issued in December 2022 was "in support of existing discharge guidance already available in the system", and would therefore "remain extant for the foreseeable future".

We note that the '[Delivering optimal outcomes and experience for people in hospital](#)' guidance, which forms part of the Six Goals for Urgent and Emergency Care Programme, states:

*"The all-Wales discharge policy is being updated (2022) and should be used to support the transfer of patients once they are clinically optimised and can move to a more suitable place of care. Their next stage of care should be identified by the D2RA pathway that they are on.*

*There are two new pieces of guidance that will be available which will support this framework and become part of the updated discharge policy:*

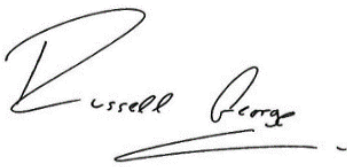
- *Trusted Assessor role guidance.*
- *Reluctant discharge guidance."*

We would be grateful if you could:

1. Provide information about when the updated all-Wales discharge policy, and the new guidance regarding the Trusted Assessor role Reluctant discharge will be published.
2. Commit to providing us with copies of all three documents when they are available.

We would be grateful for a response **by 9 June 2023**.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Russell George". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R' and a horizontal line underneath the name.

Russell George MS  
Chair, Health and Social Care Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.