

Cyflwynwyd yr ymateb i ymgynghoriad y [Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol](#) ar [Cefnogi pobl sydd â chyflyrau cronig](#)

This response was submitted to the [Health and Social Care Committee](#) consultation on [supporting people with chronic conditions](#).

CC62: Ymateb gan: | Response from:

Cross Party Group on Women's Health (CPG)



Stage 1 Health and Social Care Committee Inquiry – chronic conditions

May 25 2023

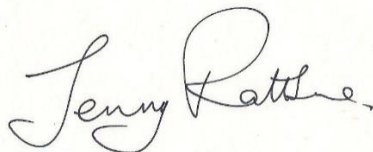
Chronic conditions disproportionately affect women and are one of the leading causes of premature death. From neurological conditions like Myalgia Encephalomyelitis (ME) which affects women at four times the rate it affects men¹, to musculoskeletal disorders like Fibromyalgia of which up to 90% of sufferers are female², to reproductive disorders such as Endometriosis that is thought to affect 1 in 10 women³, chronic conditions are wide-ranging, incurable, and rampant throughout our society.

Since its inception, the Women's Health Cross Party Group (CPG) has heard from many women trying to navigate life with chronic conditions. We support the recommendations from the Women's Health Wales Coalition's 2022 work on how to best solve gendered healthcare inequalities in Wales today.

We salute the Welsh Government's leadership on this matter, and Eluned Morgan's commitment to make progress on timely diagnosis, effective treatment, and equitable access to services relating to chronic conditions. The CPG support the recommendations of the Women's Health Plan and hope to play a role in ensuring these improvements are sustainably delivered across Wales.

We welcome scrutiny of the Women's Health Plan – with the Committee's focus on chronic conditions., in line with the committee's pledge to prioritise women's health in this parliamentary term. We recommend you take evidence from Fair Treatment for the Women of Wales (FTWW) which is made up of women with lived experience of chronic conditions who champion equitable health services for the whole of Wales.

Yours sincerely,



Jenny Rathbone MS

Chair of the Senedd's Cross Party Group on Women's Health

¹ [Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: A Neurological Entity? - PMC \(nih.gov\)](#)

² [About Fibromyalgia – Fibromyalgia Friends Together](#)

³ [Endometriosis Facts and Figures | Endometriosis UK \(endometriosis-uk.org\)](#)