

Sarah Murphy AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd Meddwl a Llesiant  
Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1444  
Ein cyf/Our ref SM/00316/25

Carolyn Thomas MS  
Chair  
Petitions Committee

[Petitions@senedd.wales](mailto:Petitions@senedd.wales)

07 July 2025

Dear Carolyn,

Thank you for your letter of 21 May regarding Petition P-06-1444 – Women of North Wales have the right to have a menopause service/clinic in Ysbyty Gwynedd and enclosing the further comments of the petitioner.

As previously outlined, menopause is a priority area in the Women's Health Plan, which includes seven specific actions – short, medium and long-term – which, once delivered, will improve the experience of women when accessing services.

The Women's Health Plan was published six months ago, in December. It was developed by the Women's Health Strategic Network, a clinically-led, strategic group to improve quality, sustainability and outcomes of NHS services for women in Wales. The plan was shared with stakeholders, and patient voice groups including Fair Treatment for the Women of Wales (FTWW) and the Women's Health Wales Coalition for feedback, before being finalised.

FTWW is a patient-led charity dedicated to achieving health equality for women, girls and people registered female at birth. It advocates for women's healthcare needs locally, nationally and at UK-level. The Women's Health Wales Coalition brings together more than 60 charities, UK-wide umbrella organisations, Royal Colleges and patient representatives in Wales.

The Women's Health Plan is a 'living' plan. We will be listening to feedback from women as the it is implemented. It provides an opportunity for us to make a real difference to how the women's health services are delivered. The Women's Health Strategic Network will continue to work with both FTWW and the Women's Health Wales Coalition during delivery. There will be mechanisms within the network where those with lived and learnt experiences and

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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.

expertise will be invited to participate, including reference groups and task and finish Groups.

There is an expectation in the plan that health boards adopt a co-production approach as they implement the actions within the plan. To support this, the Women's Health Strategic Network will be working across NHS Wales Performance and Improvement (the new name for the NHS Executive), and with the public as partners, to create a framework of co-production.

The Women's Health Plan has been published in an Easy Read version and can be accessed at the following link: [The Women's Health Plan for Wales - NHS Wales Performance and Improvement](#)

Work is underway to identify available data, and data gaps, to inform the development of a women's health dashboard. We will take the petitioner's comments into consideration as part of this work.

Health boards are scoping out the delivery in their geographical area of pathfinder Women's Health Hubs that support the timely diagnosis and treatment of women's health conditions including menopause. These will be operational by March 2026.

In relation to research, Health and Care Research Wales, supported by the Welsh Government, have provided £3m for the first women's health research centre in Wales to enhance the quality and scope of women's health research. This is in addition to the previously announced £750,000 allocated to a focused call on women's health research, which was launched in April 2025.

Health and Care Research Wales has a thriving public involvement community. It routinely requires and supports public involvement in its research centres and within any funding schemes and does not fund anything unless there is good quality public involvement built into the development and delivery of research projects. Public partners are routinely part of assessment panels and funding boards, and people with lived experience are also peer reviewers.

The focused call launched in April followed a women's health prioritisation exercise, which involved women in setting the research agenda from the outset. This included two public surveys and a facilitated workshop with women and practitioners. They determined the top 10 research priorities, including a question about menopause. This was then included in a research funding call, which closed in May. The committees which will assess the applications will include people with lived experience.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Sarah Murphy AS/MS**

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