

**Y Pwyllgor Iechyd a  
Gofal Cymdeithasol**

**Health and Social Care  
Committee**

Jeremy Miles MS

Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

29 January 2026

Dear Jeremy

Thank you for your letter of 26 January 2026, and response to the Committee's report on the 2026-27 Welsh Government Draft Budget. We also welcome the update you provided on the work of the Value and Sustainability Board, which appears to be delivering savings in some areas.

The response has raised a number of issues the Committee would like to follow up with you. To this end, I would be grateful if you would address the questions set out in the attached annex. It would be helpful if you were able to respond by **25 February 2026**.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely



Peter Fox MS

Chair, Health and Social Care Committee

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

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## Annex

1. **Recommendation 2:** Looking ahead to 2026–27, the update on the work of the Value and Sustainability Board implies a set of priorities for the Board, including the implementation of a new national CHC programme, and the next phase of medicines value priorities. It also confirms two specific areas—Interventional Radiology and Maternity & Neonatal services—have been explicitly deferred to 2026–27 as part of the fragile services programme. Beyond these, no further priorities for 2026–27 are set out. Can you confirm whether any decisions on additional priorities for 2026–27 have been identified yet?
2. In addition, can you provide an update on progress in stabilising the services labelled as “fragile”, including stroke, haematology, pathology and endoscopy.
3. **Recommendation 4:** Your response to our budget report states that NHS bodies are introducing a new costing system, which could help improve NHS spend data. Can you set out:
  - how the new costing system will make it easier for the public, the Senedd and committees to understand where NHS money is being spent;
  - what specific improvements it will deliver that we don’t currently have; and
  - how will it increase transparency about how health care spending is allocated and used—particularly given the longstanding problems caused by inconsistent coding and recording across NHS organisations.
4. **Recommendation 5:** Can you confirm whether a copy of the draft analysis (given the importance of this work for improving understanding of preventative spend) — or the final version if available — will be shared with the Committee before the end of this Senedd.
5. **Recommendation 10:** Can you confirm when the National Patient Safety Plan will be published.
6. **Recommendation 21:** Your response to our budget report does not commit to extra funding for palliative or end of life care. Instead, it focuses on reviewing current spending, reducing duplication, avoiding low-value treatments, and preventing unwanted admissions. Can you provide details of the work that is currently underway, including:
  - what work has actually begun to review current spending;
  - what specific outputs will be completed before May 2026; and
  - what concrete information will be passed to the next government to ensure this area is not left without a clear plan.