

Paul Davies MS and Sam Kurtz MS  
Senedd Cymru  
CF99 1SN

12 March 2026

Dear Paul and Sam

### **Request for Urgent Debate – Petition on Withybush Hospital Services**

Thank you for your letter of 3 March asking about expediting consideration and debate of the petition '[Urgent Pembrokeshire Healthcare & Resident Safety - Withybush Hospital & Health Board Intervention](#)', which is currently collecting signatures until August. As requested I write to confirm the intended timescale for consideration.

Before any petition is formally considered it is usually closed for signatures, we seek a formal response from the Welsh Government, and allow time for the lead petitioner to provide their views on that response before bringing it to the Committee.

Regarding petitions that have quickly reached the debate threshold, Committee Members have expressed the view that this late in the Senedd term it is more appropriate to refer on to the Seventh Senedd, for a decision on seeking a debate to be taken early in the new Senedd term. We expect that initially there will be more time available for debating non-legislative business, and it also provides the opportunity for written response from the incoming Welsh Government. On this basis, at our last meeting the Committee decided to refer on petition [P-06-1582 Restore a fair funding route so Welsh students aren't shut out from MT dance degrees in England](#) which had quickly exceeded the 10,000 threshold and been closed early.

Time is now very much against us, but we have contacted the lead petitioner regarding your request to expedite a debate and seek a response from the Welsh Government in plenary. His view is that his petition will achieve a far more meaningful outcome if considered and debated by the new Senedd. He says his priority is ensuring that the petitioners receive a substantive response from the incoming Welsh Government, and intends to keep collecting signatures beyond the election period.

At the Committee's next, final meeting of this Senedd term, on Monday 16 March, we will review all petitions under consideration and note those currently open for signatures. In light of the



response from the petitioner I expect that the Committee will formalise a recommendation to the successor committee to seek early debate of this particular petition.

In the meantime, Members can of course explore other opportunities to highlight the petition in the course of remaining Senedd business, something I do myself as Petitions Committee Chair.

If you have any further queries, please contact the Committee clerking team.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn". The script is cursive and fluid, with the 'C' being particularly large and the 'n' ending in a small loop.

**Carolyn Thomas MS**

**Chair**

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

