



Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1562
Ein cyf/Our ref JMHSC/00196/26

Carolyn Thomas MS
Chair
Petitions Committee

Petitions@senedd.wales

16 March 2026

Dear Carolyn,

Thank you for your further correspondence about Petition P-06-1562 Improve breast screening uptake for women in Wales.

Public Health Wales' (PHW) key objectives include delivering safe and effective national screening programmes, continually improving uptake through targeted, evidence-based interventions, and running proactive awareness and education campaigns to support informed participation and reduce inequalities across all screening services.

As set out previously, breast screening in Wales is delivered via 11 mobile units, which rotate across more than 100 locations on a three-year cycle, supported by four static screening centres in Cardiff, Swansea, Llandudno and Wrexham.

Site selection is specifically guided by accessibility for the local population, considering travel distance, available facilities, and public transport links. Mobile units are located within easily accessible locations, such as supermarkets or community sites to reduce barriers to attendance. Thanks to the co-operation of local partners, who allow site access and parking, local communities are able to access the mobile units.

There are currently no plans to increase the number of mobile screening centres. However, Breast Test Wales is open to considering new locations which would improve accessibility.

PHW publishes screening inequity reports, which include data about the uptake of breast screening by geographical area, deprivation levels, age, and type of invitation. This can be accessed at: [Section 6 - Breast Test Wales - Public Health Wales](#)

Breast Test Wales invites women for screening on a three-yearly cycle. In some years, only a small number of women from certain areas are invited if the mobile screening unit has

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Gohebiaeth.Jeremy.Miles@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Jeremy.Miles@gov.wales

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.

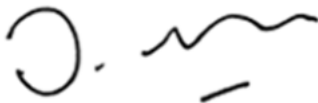
recently visited. When uptake data is based on very small numbers, it can fluctuate significantly and should be interpreted with caution.

In response to any identified inequities (across all screening programmes), the refreshed Screening Equity Strategy is being developed with engagement from wide range of stakeholders including health boards, wider public sector partners and third sector partners, including those representing under-served groups, such as Race Equality First, Learning Disability Wales, RNID and RNIB. A stakeholder workshop and follow-up online sessions have been undertaken with more than 20 different organisations represented. Once published this spring, the strategy will be available on the PHW website.

PHW continues to develop materials and campaigns to improve awareness and uptake of breast screening in Wales. A video has been developed to help people understand what breast screening is and why it is important. It features women from diverse demographics to reflect our population in Wales. PHW has recently delivered a social media campaign for breast screening awareness month, which includes targeted communications for first-time invitees. The programme is also working closely with GP practices by providing information packs with information and posters to raise awareness and encourage women to take up their screening offer.

Both PHW and the Welsh Government maintain regular communications with colleagues across the UK to understand and compare approaches to improving screening engagement and uptake, ensuring learning is applied in ways that reflect regional differences. PHW has specifically engaged colleagues in England about the evaluation of its recent campaign to support any learning and improvement of approaches in Wales.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large 'J' followed by a series of wavy lines and a short horizontal stroke at the end.

Jeremy Miles AS/MS

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care