

Mark Drakeford AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-457/P-04-474
Ein cyf/Our ref MD/01729/13

William Powell AM
Chair
Petitions Committee

26 July 2013

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

Dear William

Thank you for your letter of 11 July regarding the Petitions currently under consideration regarding spiritual care services.

I note the information you have enclosed relating to the petitions on spiritual care services.

As I said in my previous response of 8 May, the NHS Spiritual Care Standards were introduced by the Welsh Government in May 2010 under section 47 of the Health and Social Care Community Health and Standards Act 2003. The Standards committed NHS organisations to provide the appropriate funding for spiritual care services to patients, their families, carers and staff.

The Standards were introduced to facilitate the audit of spiritual care services, to ensure equality across services and to develop an integrated approach to the delivery of religious and spiritual care.

Progress on the implementation of the Standards has been good with many of the criteria in each Standard having already been met across all NHS organisations in Wales.

From May 2013, Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW) have been responsible for ensuring NHS organisations are compliant with the Spiritual Care Standards as they are linked to the to Doing Well, Doing Better – Standards for Health Services in Wales. HIW undertake testing and validation of the self assessment against the Standards for Healthcare as part of their public assurance role.

*Best wishes
Mark.*

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Minister for Health and Social Services

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Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

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