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



Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-560 Ein cyf/Our ref MD/01374/15

William Powell AM Chair - Petitions Committee Ty Hywel Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1NA

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

May 2015

Dear William

Thank you for your letter of 24 April regarding the case for a national delivery plan for gastroenterology services. I have read the responses you enclosed, which appear to show two health boards would welcome a plan and another would welcome further national action. I note one health board would not welcome a plan and three health boards have either not expressed a preference or not responded.

I recognise the need to continue to improve gastroenterology services in Wales and particularly the need for health boards to work toward meeting the Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) standards and National Institute for Health and Care Excellence guideline. Health boards are currently using the findings of the 2013 IBD audit, which assesses compliance against clinical standards, in order to improve their services.

The Welsh Government participated in a recent all-Wales IBD audit workshop, where all health boards agreed to develop their own action plans. As a result of the workshop, each health board identified a number of key priorities to be taken forward. Given an improvement process is underway, led by the relevant clinicians, I see no need at this time to consider the development of a delivery plan.

I hope this response is helpful.

Mark Drakeford AC / AM

Y Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Minister for Health and Social Services

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