

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



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref MB/MD/1812/14

David Rees AM  
Chair  
Health and Social Care Committee

2 May 2014

*Dear David*

Thank you for your letter of 8 April 2014 requesting clarification of a number of issues following my Ministerial Response to the Committee's follow-up inquiry into Stroke risk reduction.

I have received the attached letter from Adam Cairns, Chief Executive of Cardiff and Vale University Health Board and Chair of the Stroke Implementation Group outlining the priorities for the Implementation Group over the next few months. You will note that they will be providing me with an update on timescales and I will forward to the Committee with a copy of his further letter once received.

I am also pleased to tell you that I have just approved the job description for the appointment of a clinical lead for stroke services which will be issued for expressions of interest this week. This role will pick up and accelerate the good work done to date by Dr Anne Freeman as she moves into new contributions.

*Best wishes*

*Mark.*

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GIG  
NHS

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Caerdydd a'r Fro  
Cardiff and Vale  
University Health Board

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**Adam Cairns**  
Chief Executive

28 April 2014

Mark Drakeford AM  
Minister for Health and Social Services  
Welsh Government  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
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Dear Minister

The all Wales Stroke Implementation Group met at the end of March 2014. One of the items for discussion was the "Inquiry into Stroke Services" in particular the timescales for the delivery of carotid surgery and the proposals for and development of a campaign on stroke awareness.

We also had an in-depth discussion about the top priorities for the Stroke Implementation group over the next 2 – 3 years and stroke awareness, in particular AF was agreed as one of the top priorities for this group.

I have therefore commissioned a small group to work up proposals for awareness of AF and stroke, more generally and present proposal at our next meeting in June. I look forward to sharing these with you, once they are developed in more detail.

It was also agreed that a quick piece of work be undertaken on carotid surgery and once I have the responses from the Health Boards then I will be able to update you on the timescales for delivery.

Yours sincerely

**Adam Cairns**  
Chief Executive