

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/01297/14

David Rees AM
Chair,
Health and Social Care Committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

15 April 2014

Deur Dawid,

You will recall at the inquiry into bariatric services in Wales I made a commitment to find out some more information for the Committee.

In terms of the query about the costs of the NHS operating on complications from private bariatric operations and recovery of that funding, my officials have made inquiries and inform me that it is not possible to obtain such information because there is no access by the NHS to private health records. Individuals having operations following complications largely have such procedures carried out as a necessity and sometimes as an emergency and regrettably the NHS has no practical and realistic way to enforce recouping such costs.

As I outlined in the Committee, assessments have been completed by the Welsh Government on the current provision of services at every level against minimum standards of the All Wales Obesity Pathway within individual LHBs. This evidence has now been analysed and we are working with each Health Board to ensure that they are content with the assessment that has been made and detail what actions they will be undertaking to areas assessed in need of further development. We will publish the results at the end of May.

I hope this information is helpful.

Best wishes

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