

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/1761/15

David Rees AM
Chair
Health and Social Care Committee
National Assembly for Wales

17 July 2015

Dear David,

I am pleased to inform you that after an open competition exercise, Dr Richard Lewis has been appointed as the National Professional Lead for Primary Care in Wales. Dr Lewis' role will be to provide a clinical leadership role to help rebalance the focus towards locally planned and provided healthcare.

Dr Lewis' current role is Welsh Secretary of the British Medical Association (BMA) and is also a practicing General Practitioner (GP) in the South Wales Valleys. As a GP with over 25 years experience and with a 10-year leadership role in the BMA, he has the detailed knowledge, experience, and understanding of the current strengths and challenges of the primary care system in NHS Wales.

I will be announcing this appointment today at the launch of the primary care workforce plan. The workforce plan, which will be subject to a six-week period of engagement, has been developed as a result of an action set out in the overall plan for primary care services in Wales. It puts in place immediate and medium-term actions to build stronger foundations for planning the workforce that we need in the future, for supporting the onward development of clusters and for investing in the wider primary care workforce through education and training. It also includes actions to be taken in support of key sections of the current workforce, in response to recognised pressures that continue to affect parts of Wales as new models of care develop.

This letter is being copied to the opposition spokespeople.

Best wishes,

Mark

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

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