



Ein cyf/Our ref: SF/MD/1929/15

David Rees AM
Chair,
Health and Social Care Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

12 August 2015

Dear David

I refer to my written statement on 10 June regarding the approval of integrated medium-term plans for health boards and NHS trusts. As you will recall, during the passage of the NHS Finance (Wales) Act 2014 and NHS Wales Planning Framework, I provided assurances that appropriate checks would be put in place to ensure integrated medium-term plans are both robust and deliverable.

I approved five plans in June (Cwm Taf and Aneurin Bevan university health boards; Powys Teaching Health Board; Public Health Wales and Velindre NHS Trust) and I said my officials would continue to work with Abertawe Bro Morgannwg and Cardiff and Vale university health boards to further develop and test the detail of their plans. This work has been completed and both organisations' integrated medium-term plans have been approved in 2015-16.

However, continued approval has been given subject to a number of terms and conditions, of which progress will be closely scrutinised over the coming months. These conditions include:

- Providing evidence of improved performance across tier one targets and ensuring quality standards are maintained and improved across all services;
- Ensuring good financial management of the plan.

Performance against these conditions will be tracked through chief executive and chair bilateral discussions; quality, safety, and delivery meetings; and joint executive team meetings. Where there is an unacceptable level of variance from the agreed plan, an organisation will be subject to increased monitoring and challenge, support and escalation arrangements and it may lose the privileges associated with being a part of the medium-term planning regime.

My decision demonstrates the ongoing and necessary rigour in operating the arrangements set out in the NHS Wales Planning Framework and the NHS Finance (Wales) Act 2014.

A copy of this letter has been sent to Elin Jones AM, Kirsty Williams AM and Darren Millar AM and placed in the National Assembly library.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

Mark Drakeford AC / AM

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