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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

David Rees AM
Chair, Health and Social Care Committee

11th August 2015

Dear David,

Petition P-04-603 Helping babies born at 22 weeks to survive

Thank you for your letter of the 14 July, requesting further information about the timescales for the work that is being undertaken jointly by the Maternity and Neonatal Networks.

The joint Maternity and Neonatal document on 'Care at the margins of viability' is due to be presented at both the September and October steering committees on maternity and neonatal networks with the final document being presented at the Neonatal Steering Group on the 6 November 2015.

The guidance will be based on current British Association of Perinatal Medicine guidance using evidence from medical literature and professional consensus.

As part of this work, feedback is also being sought from parents and BLISS (charity working to provide the best possible care and support for all premature and sick babies and their families), on both the guidelines and parent information leaflets.

Having met with Ms Emma Jones, the petitioner, on the 18 February 2015, Dr Heather Payne, Senior Medical Officer for maternity and child health will offer a further meeting with Ms Jones in order to gather her comments on the draft document. This feedback will then be presented to the Maternity and Neonatal Networks who are responsible for the issue of the guidance.

Best wishes

DR RUTH HUSSEY OBE
CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER / MEDICAL DIRECTOR NHS WALES

cc: William Powell AM, Chair of the Petitions Committee



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