

Eluned Morgan AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-1240
Ein cyf/Our ref EM/01357/22

Jack Sargeant MS
Chair - Petitions Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
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4 May 2022

Dear Jack

Thank you for your letter of 25 March regarding Petition P-05-1240 Improve health services for people with epilepsy living in Wales, and asking about plans to increase the number and spread of epilepsy specialist nurses across Wales.

I would like to reiterate what I said in my previous response of 31 January, our reference EM/14732/21, that the Welsh Government continues to work with the Neurological Conditions Implementation Group (NCIG) to improve services for all those with neurological conditions across Wales, including epilepsy.

I note the Petition is calling for the right number of epilepsy specialist nurses and health care staff in the system to meet the care needs of our population. That is also my priority as Health Minister. To achieve this we need effective system wide workforce planning and modelling along with recruitment and retention strategies for our health and care workforce. These areas are crucially important and work to progress is currently underway.

I recognise the important role specialist nurses play in supporting people with epilepsy as a core part of the multidisciplinary team. However as I said in my previous response it is a matter for health boards to ensure they have the right people with the right skills,, including epilepsy nurses and wider multi professional team, to meet the needs of their population. Health boards undertake population needs analysis to help establish required levels of staffing, including Epilepsy Specialist Nurses. I expect them to put in place services tailored to the individual needs of their population.

I hope this is helpful.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. E. Morgan'.

Eluned Morgan AS/MS

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Minister for Health and Social Services