

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-682
Ein cyf/Our ref MD/01049/16 and MD/00196/16 follow up

William Powell AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

4 April 2016

Dear William,

In my letter of 12 February I committed to writing to you once the paediatric diabetes network had made an assessment of the issues involved in your request to consider introducing screening in children for type 1 diabetes. You have since raised a query about my letter, in which I stated the prompt diagnosis of individuals, once they show signs of type 1 diabetes is a more effective approach.

Unlike type 2 diabetes, the onset of type 1 diabetes can be swift and is not therefore suitable to be detected by intermittent testing of people with no symptoms. This view is supported by the paediatric diabetes network, which has advised the evidence indicates screening children who do not have symptoms is not an effective intervention to reduce the risk of diabetic ketoacidosis neither is routine testing of unwell children who do not have specific diabetes features.

We are working with the diabetes implementation group and Diabetes UK Cymru to encourage healthcare professionals to implement the new National Institute for Health and Care Excellence guideline about diagnosis and management of diabetes in children and young people. In particular, we want all clinicians, especially in primary care, to check for the common symptoms – tiredness, thirst, toilet, thinner – and to hold a high index of

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

English Enquiry Line 0300 0603300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0300 0604400
Correspondence.Mark.Drakeford@wales.gsi.gov.uk

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.

suspicion to promote appropriate testing. We are also working through the implementation group to consider what other awareness raising approaches could be adopted.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads "Mark".

Mark Drakeford AC / AM

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