



Ref: AL/sj

8th March 2017

Mike Hedges AM
Chair Petitions Committee
The National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Dear Mr Hedges

Re: Petition P-04-682 Routine Screening for Type 2 Diabetes in Children and Young People

Thank you for your letter regarding Petition p-04-682 'Routine Screening for Type 1 diabetes in Children and Young People'.

Firstly I would like to say how sorry I am to hear of the death of Master Peter Baldwin, and to convey my condolences to his family and friends. I can understand how concerned they must be to ensure that the risks and management of diabetes in children and young people is as comprehensive and as safe as possible.

In Powys, specialist services for children and young people with Type 1 diabetes are commissioned from one of six NHS providers. There is therefore some limited variation in the diagnosis and referral pathway as a consequence.

The service that patients access depends on where in the Powys they live. For example in North Powys, specialist paediatric diabetes services are provided by Shrewsbury and Telford Hospitals Trust, and by Hywel Dda Health Board. (To this extent the answers that you will receive from Welsh Health Boards, will also include a cohort of patients from Powys.)

All of our secondary care providers are required to work to the standards for specialist paediatric services whether they are based in Wales, or part of NHS England. Initial diagnosis may be made in General Practice, in a Paediatric Inpatient Unit or in the Emergency Department of the particular hospital where the patient presents. Powys Teaching Health Board also commissions

specialist Paediatric Nurses from our neighbouring Health Boards and NHS Trusts to provide support to children with diabetes on an 'in-reach' basis.

It would be helpful to understand the evidence as to whether a screening programme for children and young people presenting in General Practice with the symptoms indicated would be effective in reducing the risk of late or misdiagnosis of some patients with Type 1 diabetes. This is not currently the approach recommended by the National Institute for Clinical Excellence, nor is it a recommendation from the Welsh Diabetes Planning and Delivery Group. It may be useful to ask these bodies to consider the question raised by this petition.

I hope this reply is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr Andrew Cresswell, Powys Diabetes Planning & Delivery Group Chair, Newtown Hospital, Llanfair Road, Newtown, Powys, SY16 2DW if it would be helpful to have further information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Lawrie', written in a cursive style.

Alan Lawrie

Deputy CEO/Director Primary Community Care and Mental Health