

Vaughan Gething AC/AM
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref VG/08069/19

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

1 November 2019

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter of 8 October regarding petition P-05-914 Equal Access to Health Care for the Disabled.

General medical practice premises in Wales 2017, which is the design guidance for new premises, states that GPs and Health Boards should consider provision for bariatric patients and adults with learning disabilities. This will depend upon local circumstances. These patients will require additional facilities over and above normal provision. The client should consider the use of one treatment room with specialist lifting equipment, either built into the building structure or provided as a mobile hoist, for these patient groups. The room should be flexible to allow for both groups of patients and for any specialist equipment. The treatment room should also include an en-suite toilet to allow for privacy and dignity.

All patients should have equitable access to healthcare services and health boards should work to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate patients if they have specific needs due to disability. It remains the responsibility of Health Boards to plan how services will be delivered 'on the ground.' This includes the commissioning and regular review of GP services to ensure the needs of the resident population are met.

Yours sincerely,

Vaughan Gething AC/AM
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Minister for Health and Social Services

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Gohebiaeth.Vaughan.Gething@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales

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.