Vaughan Gething AC/AM Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd, Llesiant a Chwaraeon Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport



Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-769 Ein cyf/Our ref VG/01970/17

David John Rowlands AM Chair, Petitions Committee National Assembly for Wales Cardiff Bay CF99 1NA

government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk

18 August 2017

Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of 31 July as chair of the Petitions Committee about Petition P-05-769 South Wales Major Trauma Centre - Cardiff and Swansea.

The NHS Wales Health Collaborative has been developing proposals for the establishment of a major trauma network, including a major trauma centre, to cover the region of south Wales, west Wales and south Powys.

The Collaborative convened an independent panel, comprising representatives from across major trauma services, to assist in identifying a preferred option for the location and development of a major trauma centre. Panel members were invited on the basis of their national and international reputations as experts in trauma care and the development of trauma systems. All have been involved in the development of regional major trauma systems.

The panel's report has been submitted to the Collaborative, which intends to make recommendations for consideration by the individual health boards by early autumn. It will then be for those health boards to make decisions through their own internal governance mechanisms. I understand there is likely to be a period of public consultation and engagement on any proposals for the major trauma network, before any final decisions are made.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay Caerdydd • Cardiff CF99 1NA Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400
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.

As I have set out, there is an evidence-led NHS process on the major trauma network and centre. I cannot, and will not, get drawn into commenting on this petition, as it is possible that I will have to determine a final decision and commenting may prejudice my position. Any decision I may make would potentially be reviewable in the courts.

Yours sincerely,

Vaughan Gething AC/AM

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