



Our ref WQ93747-WQ93748

Sam Rowlands MS
Senedd Member for North Wales

Sam.Rowlands@senedd.wales

3 September 2024

Dear Sam

I am responding to your written questions:

“What assessment has the Cabinet Secretary made of NHS England's soup and shake scheme and the potential for using the scheme in Wales?”

How many people in Wales does the Welsh Government project will need diabetes related amputations over the next five years?”

The Welsh Government published its policy for diabetes in June 2023, which included the development of diabetes remission services. Remission services have been piloted in three health boards to date and we are working with the NHS Executive's strategic clinical network for diabetes, and the Public Health Wales led Together for Diabetes programme, to monitor the evidence for diabetes remission services and guide health board planning.

The Welsh Government does not undertake work to project the number of diabetes-related amputations that will be required over the next five years, although the significant impact on patients and NHS services is recognised. Amputation rates will be dependent on the delivery of recommended key care processes such as foot checks, service provision for the management of foot ulceration and peripheral arterial disease, and the provision of revascularisation treatments and procedures.

To support improvements in the quality and consistency of diabetic foot care, we participate in an England and Wales Clinical audit, the NHS Executive has appointed a national clinical lead and hosts a diabetes foot network to support service improvement, and a national pathway has been agreed to guide health board service planning.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Drakeford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Mark Drakeford AS/MS

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care