

Jane Hutt AM
Minister for Health and Social Services

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Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Our Ref: WAQ27862/03

Alun Cairns AM
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CARDIFF
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23 September 2003

Dear Alun

I am writing about the holding reply I gave in response to the Written Assembly Question you tabled, for answer on 3 September 2003, asking if I would make a statement on the numbers of operations (in-patient and day-case) that have taken place in the NHS in the last 5 years. I am now in a position to give a substantive reply.

Comprehensive data on numbers of operations are not available. A study undertaken by the NHS in Wales in recent months has identified a number of service developments (listed in <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites/documents/296/PerfInfoDev1.pdf>) which are not being routinely and consistently captured in hospital activity reporting systems across the NHS. Because of the way in which services are configured and delivered there are currently no agreed reporting mechanisms for much of this activity, which includes operations.

Further work is planned on this and hospital activity levels will be published when available on a consistent basis across the NHS in Wales

Yours Sincerely

Jane Hutt



BUDDSODDWR MEWN POBL
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE