Eluned Morgan AS/MS Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd, Gofal Cymdeithasol a'r Gymraeg Cabinet Secretary for Health, Social Care and Welsh Language



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Our ref: WQ93467

Andrew RT Davies

Member of the Senedd for South Wales Central

AndrewRT.Davies@senedd.wales

5 August 2024

Dear Andrew,

I am responding to your written question: "Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement responding to the recent comments made by the Deputy Chair of Welsh Council for the British Medical Association concerning the current state of GP practices in Wales"

Like the public, I greatly value general practice – and the work GPs do – in Wales. General practice provides vital care, advice and support to people throughout Wales and is the key gateway to other health and care services.

I understand and appreciate the concerns raised by the deputy chair of the BMA's Welsh Council. We will continue to work with the GP profession to meet these challenges and deliver a quality, sustainable service for Wales.

The Unified Contract, which we introduced last year, simplifies the services all GP practices provide, and reduces unnecessary bureaucracy, freeing up GP time to care for patients.

In relation to staffing, the target of 160 new GP trainees each year is consistently exceeded, and the number of non-GP staff in practices is increasing significantly. The level of investment into GP services has also increased significantly by more than £250m from 2005.

Formal contract negotiations will take place this year – Welsh Government officials, NHS colleagues and BMA representatives will work in social partnership to secure the best possible outcomes for GPs, their staff and the public.

Yours sincerely,

M. J. Mayan

Eluned Morgan AS/MS

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> Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay Caerdydd • Cardiff CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400
Gohebiaeth.Eluned.Morgan@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Eluned.Morgan@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.