Eluned Morgan AS/MS Y Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru

Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ91880

Andrew R.T. Davies MS Senedd Regional Member for South Wales Central

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21 March 2024

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your recent Written Question asking how the Welsh Government is incentivising GPs to work in small and rural communities in Wales.

Financial incentives for GP training were introduced in 2017 as part of a package of measures to deliver the Welsh Government's commitment to continue to invest in the primary care workforce.

The targeted incentive scheme provides £20,000 to GP trainees who take up a training post in north Wales, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire and Powys. These training schemes historically had low fill rates – less than 75% over a 5-year period – and serve rural communities. This scheme was extended to Carmarthenshire from August 2023.

Trainees receive £10,000 on commencing their training, with the second payment made after they complete one year of practice in the incentivised region following completion of their training.

Rurality is taken into account in the global sum allocation of funding for GP services. As independent contractors, GP partners will make business decisions about the size of practice required to sustain a viable service.

Health Boards are responsible for ensuring services meet the needs of their local population. In rural areas this may be through primary care clusters, with a range of services delivered by a multi-professional team through use of multiple funding streams.

Yours sincerely,

M. Z. Majo -

Eluned Morgan AS/MS Y Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Minister for Health and Social Services

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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.