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



Our ref: WQ91585

Russell George MS Senedd Constituency Member for Montgomeryshire

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19 March 2024

Dear Russell,

Thank you for your recent written question asking me to confirm whether the scanners are operational, what proportion of scanning capacity will be allocated for dementia diagnosis, and whether they will facilitate amyloid scanning, following the announcement of £25 million of additional funding for PET-CT Scanners announced in September 2021?

The original scanner in Cardiff was upgraded to a state-of-the-art digital scanner in July 2023, and is delivering faster scanning and increased image quality for the benefit of patients.

Business cases for new fixed scanners in North Wales and Swansea are being developed by Health Boards with support from the All-Wales PET Programme. Mobile scanner provision at these locations has been extended in response to clinical demand in the meantime.

PET-CT has predominantly been used for diagnosis and accurate staging for people living with cancer but is increasingly an important diagnostic intervention for conditions such as heart disease and neurological disorders, including dementia. Health boards are expected to use scanners flexibly to meet demands.

The expanding scope of use and associated infrastructure considerations including for amyloid scanning is on the agenda of the commissioners of PET-CT.

We now provide £12m to Regional Partnership Boards annually to support the implementation of the Dementia Action Plan vision and develop a joint health and social care approach to dementia support. This includes £3m allocated to support people through the assessment and diagnostic process and has resulted in increased capacity within memory assessment services.

Yours sincerely,

**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.