



Our ref: WQ88938-9

Janet Finch-Saunders MS  
Member of the Senedd for Aberconwy

[Janet.Finch-Saunders@senedd.wales](mailto:Janet.Finch-Saunders@senedd.wales)

18 April 2024

Dear Janet,

I am writing in response to the following written questions:

- Will the Minister explain why Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board is allowing NHS consultants to undertake private work on the NHS estate rather than incentivising them to undertake more NHS work?
- Will the Minister review the practice of NHS consultants using NHS estates to undertake private work?

The Welsh Government does not have a role in monitoring private work undertaken by consultants employed in NHS Wales. This would be for NHS organisations to consider as their employer.

There are clear provisions in the consultant contract and the job planning process regarding private work for consultants employed in the NHS, which employers should consider these as part of the job planning process.

The consultants' contract is clear that:

- Any consultant undertaking private practice must demonstrate that they are fulfilling their NHS commitments.
- There must be no conflict of interest between NHS work and private work.
- The needs of the patients in the NHS will not be prejudiced by the provision of services to patients.
- Work outside NHS commitments will not adversely affect NHS work, not in any way hinder or conflict the needs of NHS employers and employee.
- NHS facilities, staff and services may only be used for private practice with the agreement of the NHS employer.

Use of NHS estates for private practice by NHS consultants is for health boards to determine locally in line with their plans for service delivery, however I would expect that any local agreement in place would not undermine or impede service provided to NHS patients.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. E. Morgan'.

**Eluned Morgan AS/MS**

Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol