



Russell George MS  
Member of the Senedd for Montgomeryshire  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN  
[Russell.George@senedd.wales](mailto:Russell.George@senedd.wales)

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Dear Russell

During my Plenary Oral Question session on 9 June, I agreed to provide you with further information about how Welsh Government will look to train 12,000 doctors, nurses, allied health professionals and psychologists over the next five years.

Welsh Government is committed to providing the NHS Wales with the workforce it needs to meet demand. We are achieving this through increased training places, encouraging young people to take up healthcare professions and recruiting staff from outside Wales.

The Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW) and Social Care Wales workforce strategy for health and social care, launched in October 2020, will establish system wide workforce transformation and ensure workforce sustainability for the future.

The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted a continued requirement for increased numbers of essential health professionals, which is why for the seventh consecutive year in 2020 the then Minister agreed funding to support health professional education and training in Wales for 2021/22. This equates to an 8.3% increase from 2020/21.

Welsh Government has agreed the following training places for this year:

- Doctors – 415
- Nursing - 2202
- Midwives – 185
- Allied Health Professionals – 641, which includes Clinical Psychologists

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

[Gohebiaeth.Eluned.Morgan@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Eluned.Morgan@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Eluned.Morgan@gov.wales](mailto: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.

HEIW are in the process of finalising the NHS Education and Commissioning Training Plan for 2022/23 before presenting it to Welsh Government. This will build on the last year's plan and focus on responding to service challenges as well as addressing needs of individual professional and occupational groups.

Welsh Government's position is to at a minimum maintain the current level of training places over the next five years.

I hope you find the information within this response to be useful. Thank you for taking the time to raise this matter with me.

Yours sincerely,

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

**Eluned Morgan AS/MS**

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services