

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref: P-05-1001 / P-05-1018
Ein cyf/Our ref VG/00379/21

Janet Finch-Saunders MS
Chair
Petitions Committee
Senedd Cymru

19 January 2021

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter of 21 December regarding petitions in relation to the development of a new Velindre Cancer Centre.

The outline business cases for the new Velindre Cancer Centre and its enabling works were considered by the Welsh Government's NHS Infrastructure Investment Board on 9 and 16 December. This included consideration of the Nuffield Trust advice to Velindre University NHS Trust. I am due to receive formal advice from the Infrastructure Investment Board in the coming weeks on whether or not to approve the outline business cases. Depending on the outcome of this process, the next steps will be determined.

The premise of your petitioner's call for an independent inquiry into the clinical model is their concern about the veracity of the case being put forward by Velindre University NHS Trust. In the view of your petitioner, this requires an independent assessment of the Trust's business case concerning the clinical model. Your petitioner may not be aware that the Welsh Government is conducting a lengthy and detailed scrutiny process of this business case. Therefore, I see no need for an additional independent assessment of the outline business cases. In addition, the clinical model cannot be considered in isolation from the rest of the business case, as the non-clinical aspects of the business case influence the clinical aspects and vice versa.

I would also like to emphasise that the Welsh Government's role is to assess, through its scrutiny process, the strength of the case being made and to make a determination with regard to its approval and funding. I regret that I cannot comment further at this time as this would prejudice my consideration of the advice from the Infrastructure Investment Board.

Yours sincerely,

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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.