

Mark Drakeford AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid a'r Gymraeg
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1400
Ein cyf/Our ref MDFWL/10145/24

Carolyn Thomas MS
Chair - Petitions committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

07 January 2025

Dear Carolyn Thomas MS,

Thank you for your letter and the ongoing work of the petitions committee in highlighting this important petition from BMA Cymru.

The draft budget, published on the 10th of December, set out the spending priorities for the Welsh Government and included funding to deliver our commitment to 'Iechyd Da' - A Healthier Wales. As part of this, the Draft Budget prioritised health and social care and provided the MEG with an additional £435m of resource funding. This was on top of the extra funding provided to frontline NHS services in 2024-25. Taken together, our investment over the last two years in health and social care is £880m, an increase of 8%. We are also investing in the infrastructure of the NHS, with an additional £175m of capital funding to improve the NHS estate as well as investing in new equipment and digital technology.

The Draft Budget will enable us to reinvest in our public services after having to make some very difficult decisions in recent budget rounds. We will still face pressures, but we have ensured that the fiscal resources we have as part of this budget are aligned to the most important issues for Welsh people. This budget signals a brighter future for Wales and puts the country on a path to growth once again.

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Correspondence.Mark.Drakeford@gov.wales
Gohebiaeth.Mark.Drakeford@llyw.cymru

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.

I hope this reassures the Committee and BMA Cymru that we recognise the importance of providing the Health and Social Services MEG with the appropriate level of financial support. However, it is of course for the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care, to now make decisions on how to use the resources available to him, including the funding for GPs.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Drakeford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Mark Drakeford AS/MS

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