

David Rowlands AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
Tŷ Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

6 July 2017

Dear David,

Petition P-04-564 Restoration of Inpatient Beds, Minor Injuries Cover and X-Ray Unit to the Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital

I am writing to update you on the Committee's forward work programme meeting which included consideration of the letter from Mike Hedges, in his role as former Chair of the Petitions Committee, dated 19 May 2017.

We note the detailed work that your Committee has undertaken to date in respect of this petition. Whilst the issues raised in this petition are clearly of interest to this Committee, you will be aware that our remit is to scrutinise Welsh Government policy and strategy. We are not in a position therefore to take forward the issue raised in this specific individual case.

We recognise that there are clear concerns about this specific example in respect of the Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital. The Committee also recognises the broader issues it raises about the configuration and delivery of health services in rural areas and other areas where there are difficulties in accessing health services.

These important policy issues are therefore matters that this Committee intends to closely monitor. In terms of timing, it is our intention to consider the broad matters raised in the petition within the context of the findings of the final report of the Parliamentary Review of Health and Social Care in Wales, due to be



published later this year. The Committee anticipates the Parliamentary Review will consider matters of rural primary care and community hospitals in its report.

This Committee will then decide what approach it wishes to take and whether it will undertake any specific work in this regard.

I will keep you updated on our work programme.

I hope you find this update helpful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David Lloyd". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and 'L'.

Dr Dai Lloyd AM
Chair, Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

