



Cynulliad National  
Cenedlaethol Assembly for  
Cymru Wales

Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Health and Social Services Committee

Eich cyf . Your ref  
Ein cyf . Our ref: Canc Serv

25 April 2006

## **CANCER SERVICES FOR THE PEOPLE OF WALES**

The Health and Social Services Committee is undertaking a review of cancer services for people in Wales.

The terms of reference for the review are:

- i. to review equality of provision and equity of access to the full range of high quality cancer services that meet the National Cancer Standards;
- ii. to identify the barriers to good service and recommend measures to overcome them;
- iii. to report the Committee's findings to the Assembly by 2 March 2007.

The Committee has identified a number of issues as a result of preliminary consultation undertaken earlier this year. These are set out in the Annex to this letter. I am writing to invite you to provide written evidence to the Committee on some or all of them. It would be helpful if you could respond electronically using the annex as a template. A copy of the template can be obtained on the

Mae Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg ac yn Saesneg The National Assembly for Wales welcomes correspondence in Welsh or English

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committee's website at <http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubassemhealsocsvs/content/policy-e.htm>. Please contact me if that causes you a problem.

You may find it helpful to read the transcript of the Committee's meeting on 23 March as background. This can be obtained on the internet at <http://assembly/rop/ROP/Committees/HSS/hss060323fv7.pdf>. Let me know if you would prefer a hard copy.

It is normal practice for the National Assembly to publish evidence either within a report, or as supplementary evidence to a report. We will not publish information which we consider to be personal data, such as name and contact details, unless consent has been provided or these are details relating to an organisation.

The National Assembly operates within the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

If any information, other than personal data, is being submitted that is regarded by the provider not to be suitable for public disclosure, it is up to the provider to stipulate what part(s) of the information should not be published and provide a reasoned argument to support this. The National Assembly will take this into account when publishing evidence in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In the event of a request for information, it may be necessary for information which has been provided either as evidence, communication or any other written information, to be disclosed. This may include information which has previously been removed by the National Assembly for publication purposes.

The Committee will start to take oral evidence in June. This will continue in the Autumn, when the Committee will have considered the evidence received through this written consultation. At this stage the Committee may decide to limit the number of issues it takes forward.

Please send your evidence by e-mail to me at [jane.westlake@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:jane.westlake@wales.gsi.gov.uk) please head you e-mail: Canc Serv. The closing date for responses is Monday 24 July 2006.

Mrs Jane Westlake  
Committee Clerk

**National Assembly for Wales  
Health and social Services Committee  
Review of Cancer Services for the People of Wales**

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| <b>Name of respondent:</b>   |
| <b>Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?</b>  |
| <b>If so please give the name</b>  |
| <b>Address:</b>  |
| <b>Telephone number:</b>   |
| <b>Would you be willing to give oral evidence to the Committee?</b>  |
| <b>If the evidence you give below is your personal view, rather than that of an organisation, please state whether or not you are willing for your evidence to be published by putting a X in the appropriate box below:</b> |
| <b>I am content for my evidence to be published</b>  |
| <b>I am not content for my evidence to be published</b>  |

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|-----------------|--|
| <b>1</b>        | <b>How can information technology be used more effectively to track and facilitate the patient's journey?</b>  |
| <b>Response</b> |  |
| <b>2)</b>       | <b>How effectively is research and good practice being integrated with service delivery? What can be done and by whom to improve this?</b>   |
| <b>Response</b> |  |
| <b>3</b>        | <b>What are your views on the complexity of commissioning services? Is the process hampered by the involvement of the local health boards, cancer networks and Health Commission Wales? How could it simplified?</b> |
| <b>Response</b> |  |
| <b>4</b>        | <b>What evidence is there of the value of screening and</b>  |

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|-----------------|--|
|                 | <b>immunisation?</b>   |
| <b>Response</b> |  |
| <b>5</b>        | <b>What are the barriers to the NHS in Wales keeping abreast of, and responding to, developing technologies and therapies? How might these barriers be overcome?</b>                                     |
| <b>Response</b> |  |
| <b>6</b>        | <b>How can the NHS and the voluntary sector work together more effectively to deliver services?</b>  |
| <b>Response</b> |  |
| <b>7</b>        | <b>How can the collection and use of data on where the terminally ill spend their last weeks or months be improved better to inform service provision for those people?</b>                              |
| <b>Response</b> |  |
| <b>8</b>        | <b>There are a number of issues around prescribing and the cost of drugs:</b>  |
| <b>8(i)</b>     | <b>What should be done and by whom to reduce continued prescribing of inappropriate drugs?</b>   |
| <b>Response</b> |  |
| <b>8(ii)</b>    | <b>Should people who are prepared to pay privately for drugs not available to them on the NHS, be able to do so without having to become private patients and having to pay for all their treatment?</b> |
| <b>Response</b> |  |
| <b>8(iii)</b>   | <b>Do doctors, pharmacists and other health professionals have adequate access to <i>independent</i> advice and guidance on the prescribing of drugs?</b>  |
| <b>Response</b> |  |

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| <b>9</b>        | <b>Are services centred on the patient, with service users consulted?<br/>If not what are the reasons for this and how patient involvement<br/>be improved?</b> |
| <b>Response</b> |   |

Thank you for responding. If possible please e-mail your response to [jane.westlake@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:jane.westlake@wales.gsi.gov.uk) . Alternatively post it to Jane Westlake, Clerk to the Health and Social Services Committee, Room B4.07, National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay Cardiff, CF99 1NA. **The closing date for responses is Monday 24 July 2006**