



Our ref: WQ88145

Sam Rowlands MS
Senedd Regional Member for North Wales

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24 May 2023

Dear Sam,

Thank you for your recent written questions asking me to make a statement on Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board's setting of continuing healthcare (CHC) care home fees, and the impact its timing and the lack of a consultation process has had on providers.

It is the responsibility of individual health boards to set appropriate rates of fees for providers under Continuing NHS Healthcare. May I therefore direct you to Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) to provide an explanation of the process they have followed in setting the fee rate for CHC.

My officials have been in contact with the health board, and have emphasised the importance of engagement with providers in relation to fees. This is acknowledged by the health board, who have undertaken to strengthen this element of their fee setting process. In addition, the North Wales Fees Group which is a sub-group of the Regional Partnership Board, continues to have a role in this process and BCUHB are a member of this group.

I engage regularly with Health Boards and Local Authorities on a range of issues, emphasising the need to maintain strong regional partnerships, including with their independent providers. There is a real need to gain a commitment to move towards a joint approach to the commissioning of care and support services.

Our Programme for Government includes a commitment to introduce a strategic National Framework for Care and Support to set standards for commissioning practice, reduce complexity and rebalance commissioning to focus on quality and outcomes.

Partners need to continually work together at several levels to maximise resources and meet the needs of their population - locally, regionally and nationally.

Yours sincerely,

Eluned Morgan AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services

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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.