

Brian Gibbons AC/AM

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services

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Ein cyf/Our ref : MB/BG/1030/06

Kirsty Williams AM
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

17 October 2006

Dear Kirsty

In response to your question in relation to midwifery vacancies in Wales, I am now in a position to provide you with a reply.

The commissioning of training places is based on needs identified in workforce plans completed by NHS trusts. The total number of midwives in training has increased from 137 in 2004, to 186 in 2005, primarily due to the introduction of the 3-year midwifery course in both the University of Glamorgan and Cardiff University. This course had previously only been available in Swansea University. In 2005/6 Bangor University commenced a 3-year course which now makes this course available throughout Wales.

I am reliably informed that there are no problems in recruiting midwives and that all vacancies across Wales have been filled.

Yours sincerely

Brian Gibbons AM/AC