



Our ref: WQ87936 & WQ87988

Andrew R. T. Davies MS
Senedd Regional Member for South Wales Central

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6 June 2023

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your recent written questions asking me how many hospital beds the Welsh NHS had in November 2022 and how many more hospital beds does the Welsh Government expect to have been procured by November 2023.

We do not hold information centrally about how many beds will be procured.

Management information indicates that the all Wales total number of beds in November 2022 was 9,584, which is 309 beds per 100,000 people. In comparison, in England the [published data for day-only and overnight beds combined was 141,960 in Q3 2022/23, which is 251 beds per 100,000 people](#). However, the Wales and England figures may not be directly comparable because of differences in the way the data are collected.

Health Boards are responsible for planning and delivering sufficient capacity, including acute and community hospital bed capacity, based on an assessment of the needs of their local population.

Over the last Winter Health Boards and Local Authorities secured 670 additional step-down placements to support people on their discharge journey. Work has already commenced on a similar approach for Winter 2023/4, you may wish to note the following press release issued today in relation to this: [Up to £30m investment in community care to reduce pressure on hospitals | GOV.WALES](#)

Yours sincerely,

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

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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.