

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref VG/0468/21

Dr Dai Lloyd MS
Chair, Health, Social Care and Sport Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

1 February 2021

Dear Dai

I refer to the letter you sent to health boards on 20 January regarding the Committee's inquiry into the impact of Covid-19 on health and social care.

You refer in point 7 of your letter to an additional allocation of £30m for waiting times. I wanted to clarify that Welsh Government has not made a separate allocation of funding in this financial year for waiting times. As you will be aware, most organisations have had to suspend the majority of routine care to ensure workforce and bed capacity to manage the ongoing impact of Covid-19. As such, the routine care that has been able to continue this year has been funded from core health board allocations, and has not required additional funding.

It is possible that you were referring to the £30m for transformation of unscheduled and emergency care that was included within the Winter Protection Plan, and formed part of the NHS stabilisation funding package that I announced jointly with the Minister for Finance and Trefnydd in August last year. This funding has been used to support services and provide resilience in emergency care services over the winter period.

This Government is committed to addressing the backlog of patients waiting for routine care, but, as I have said on several occasions, this is likely to take a number of years, and will require sustained investment during the course of the next Senedd term.

I trust this clarifies the funding position.

Yours sincerely,

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
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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.