

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Our ref: WQ89553 and WQ89554

Russell George MS
Senedd Constituency Member for Montgomeryshire

Russell.George@senedd.wales

25 January 2024

Dear Russell,

I am writing in response to your Written Questions asking me to provide the number of patients who have waited over four hours in each emergency department, by health board, with and without the application of breach exemptions, for each month since breach exemptions were introduced.

You will be aware of the media coverage around the Welsh emergency department statistics in November 2023, and the false claims made about attendances being removed from our official statistics. I have previously addressed those points in Plenary and confirmed that the official statistics are in line with nationally agreed guidance and produced independently and free from political interference.

Furthermore, my understanding is that the independent Office for National Statistics (ONS), jointly with the responsible statisticians across the UK, has undertaken work to assess the coherence and comparability of the emergency department statistics produced by the four nations, and expects to publish an article on this topic in February 2024. I believe this is important in the context of your questions, and I will respond in full when the ONS article has been published.

Yours sincerely,

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Gohebiaeth.Eluned.Morgan@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Eluned.Morgan@gov.wales

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.