

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ91888 & WQ91889

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

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21 March 2024

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your recent Written Question asking how has the number of people in Wales using private healthcare services changed over the past five years and what is my assessment of the extent to which the private health sector reduces pressure on the Welsh NHS.

Welsh Government does not collect or hold data on the use of private healthcare services, and as such I am unable to comment on any change over the past five years.

In relation to the second question, it is not possible to undertake any real assessment of the extent to which the private health sector reduces pressure on the Welsh NHS.

There are different reasons and different uses of the private health sector from individuals choosing to use them for part or all of their health needs, to NHS organisations commissioning the private sector to support the delivery of their population health needs.

Wales, together with the other UK nations, have seen increase pressure for both elective and emergency care in recent years, it is not possible however to quantify to what extent the use of the private sector has had on this increase.

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.