



Ein cyf/Our ref TO/MDHSC/10295/24

[Redacted s40(2)]

9 September 2024

Dear [Redacted s40(2)]

Thank you for your email of 28 August addressed to Mark Drakeford MS, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care regarding ADHD Assessment and Care in Bridgend. I have been asked to reply on this occasion.

The increased awareness of neurodivergence has placed increasing pressure on assessment services in recent years. In 2022 we commenced the Neurodiversity Improvement Programme to develop an integrated approach to service improvement. This year we have provided Regional Partnership Boards with an additional £5m to improve services, recognising that in many areas adult Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder services are underdeveloped and are taking further action such as improving pathways and training for staff. On 30th October we are re-launching the [website](#) supported by the National Neurodivergence Team to raise awareness that the team is now providing support across neurodivergence services.

Unfortunately, the Welsh Government is unable to intervene in individual cases. Health Boards are responsible for the assessment and diagnosis of neurodevelopmental conditions such as ADHD, and this includes the recognition of private assessments. You will understand independent assessments require careful consideration to ensure that they are undertaken to a high quality, which meet clinical guidelines.

Seeking private treatment, including private prescriptions, is a personal decision for you and your family and there is no provision for the NHS or Welsh Government to refund all, or part, of the costs incurred as NHS resources should not be used to subsidise the use of private care.

Patients who request to be referred privately are expected to pay the full cost of any treatment they receive in relation to the care provided privately, which includes medication prescribed by a clinician in the course of a private consultation. Patients should be informed of this expectation prior to referral.

It is for your GP to consider what NHS treatment is appropriate including whether to prescribe medication following a private consultation. The decision whether to enter into any shared care arrangement is at the discretion of the GP. In the first instance you should discuss your treatment with your GP.

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Tîm Busnes y Llywodraeth/Government Business Team
Grŵp Iechyd, Gofal Cymdeithasol a'r Blynyddoedd /Health, Social Care and Early Years
Group