



Eich cyf/Your ref BG00214  
Ein cyf/Our ref JMHSC/00285/25

Becky Gittins MP  
Member of Parliament for Clwyd East

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February 2025

Dear Becky,

Thank you for your email of 27 January on behalf of [Redacted s40(2)], about shared care arrangements for people with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). I was sorry to read about [Redacted s40(2)] situation.

While I cannot comment on her situation, I can explain the policy. People 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. This includes medication prescribed by a clinician in the course of a private consultation. People should be informed about this expectation before referral.

It will be for [Redacted s40(2)], GP to consider what NHS treatment is appropriate, including whether to prescribe a medication following a private consultation. In some health boards prescribing of certain medicines is restricted to specialist clinicians, often those based in the hospital setting. [Redacted s40(2)], GP may wish to refer her to a specialist within NHS Wales to continue her treatment.

Paying privately for treatment, including private prescriptions, is entirely a personal decision for the individual and their family. There is no provision for the NHS or Welsh Government to refund all, or part, of the costs as NHS resources should not be used to subsidise the use of private care.

Demand for ADHD assessment and support has risen very sharply in recent years as awareness of neurodivergent conditions has increased. Unfortunately, this has led to longer NHS waiting times for assessment. We have reviewed existing NHS services and, in response, provided an extra £12m to reduce the pressures in the system, to improve waiting times for assessment and to address gaps in provision in both children and adult services. The NHS Wales Executive is working closely with health boards to identify what more needs

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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.

to be done to improve services quickly and to reduce waiting times. The Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing has just confirmed further funding to continue the transformation of services: [Written Statement: Improving Neurodivergence Services \(3 February 2025\) | GOV.WALES](#)

We also fund the national neurodivergent team (previously known as the National Autism Team) which provides support for the training and development of knowledge of neurodivergent conditions among professionals across Wales. A library of resources, for both parents/carers and professionals, has been produced and is available on its website. These resources have been co-produced with people who are neurodiverse.

As you are aware, neither I nor my officials are able to comment on or intervene in individual cases. However, if [Redacted s40(2)], is not satisfied with the services provided by her health board, she may wish to raise her concerns directly. The contact details for Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board are as follows: [Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board - Concerns and Complaints](#)

I should expect the health board to provide [Redacted s40(2)], with a satisfactory reply that fully addresses her concerns. Should this not be the case, there are further steps she can take through the Putting Things Right procedure and I have attached a link which explains the process in more detail: [Putting Things Right: alternative formats | GOV.WALES](#)

Finally, there the CALL helpline offers confidential emotional support and advice to both an individual and their family. It also helps people contact support available in their local area. The Freephone number for CALL is 0800 132 737 or text HELP to 81066. There is also a CALL website with information about maintaining mental wellbeing: [Community Advice and Listening Line \(CALL\) Mental Health Helpline](#)

Yours sincerely,

**Jeremy Miles AS/MS**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol  
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care