

Jeremy Miles AS/MS  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol  
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref JMHSC/10775/24

Councillor Richard Jones

steven.goodrum@flintshire.gov.uk

20 December 2024

Dear Cllr Jones,

Thank you for your letter received on 12 November titled 'Joint Funded care packages – need for payment of outstanding invoices in arbitration.' Please accept my sincere apologies for the delay in providing this reply.

I note the content of your letter regarding the levels of current debt accumulated, and I also acknowledge the positive impact the local 'Arbitration' process appears to be having in resolving these matters, although recognise that there are still some outstanding cases to address.

I fully appreciate the importance of timely payment of agreed CHC contributions from the local Health Board for your budget management processes and recognise that late or reduced payments will have a real and challenging impact on your budget management.

However, I also recognise that the CHC decision making process is complex, and despite the nationally agreed CHC framework, obtaining agreement between health and social care partners is often challenging and can lead to 'disputed claims' where partners are not in agreement on either a person's eligibility for a CHC package or the nature and scale of the package to be provided.

From your letter it is not clear if those outstanding payments relate to un-paid invoices on 'agreed' CHC packages or if they relate to those that are still currently 'in dispute.' I think it is important to understand the difference as the appropriate response will differ.

In relation to disputed claims, I understand that the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and Heads of Adult Services from across North Wales are working together to review a number of disputed cases and are trying to reach an agreed solution. It may be worthwhile checking to see if the cases you have written about are being covered through that process.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

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

[Gohebiaeth.Jeremy.Miles@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Jeremy.Miles@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Jeremy.Miles@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Jeremy.Miles@gov.wales)

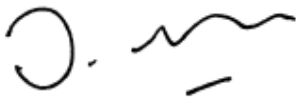
Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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.

Part of this review process should also include reaching agreement on clear roles and responsibilities when agreeing and commissioning CHC packages of care and ensuring there is close communication between all partners to prevent costs being incurred that have not been formally agreed or assigned to either partner.

While it would not be appropriate for me as Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care to intervene in financial disputes between statutory partners, I would encourage both partners, the health board and yourselves as the local authority, to endeavour to work together in a timely manner to resolve the current situation and take action to firm up processes to avoid this happening again.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large 'J' followed by a series of wavy lines and a short horizontal stroke at the end.

**Jeremy Miles AS/MS**

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