Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00108/13

David Stewart
Convener of the Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Public Petitions Clerks
Room T3.40
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

andrew.howlett@scottish.parliament.uk

January 2013

Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of 10 January requesting information on the management of chronic pain services in Wales.


The Directive recognises how, as well as coping with physical pain, the pain experience can have a dramatic impact on self-esteem, social relationships, employment opportunities and personal finances. It supports the movement of treatment and care from acute care settings to community and primary care based settings, consistent with the Chronic Conditions Management Model and Framework, and also recognises individual needs vary, and how some patients may require more specialist management through a multi-professional pain service.

An audit of Local Health Board (LHB) compliance with the Directive was undertaken in April 2011 which showed the LHBs are compliant with 87% of the actions within the Pain Directive.

I have attached a link to the Welsh Government website for Service Development and Commissioning Directives: Chronic Non-Malignant Pain, from where you can access a copy of the document; http://wales.gov.uk/topics/health/publications/health/strategies/pain/?lang=en
If you would like further information regarding how services are provided in Wales, you may wish to contact Dr Owen Hughes, Head of Bronllys Residential Pain Management Programme and Chair of the Welsh Pain Advisory Board, at Owen.Hughes@wales.nhs.uk.

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cyfhoenau
Minister for Health and Social Services