

18 December 2023

Dear

ATISN 19355 - Multiple Sclerosis

Thank you for your email received on 29 November 2023 which will be dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act (2000). You requested the following:

For the period 2017-2024

1. What the Welsh Government has done to help and support people with multiple sclerosis
2. Has the Welsh Government created any health policies regarding this matter.

You also sent an email on 15 November, asking if Welsh Government provide any grants for people with neurological conditions, and if Welsh Government co-operates with the MS Society.

Our Response

Since the Neurological Conditions Delivery Plan was published in 2017 [Neurological Conditions Delivery Plan - July 2017](#) Welsh Government has progressed policy in relation to neurological conditions.

In November 2022, the Welsh Government published a [quality statement for Neurological Conditions](#) which sets out the outcomes and standards we expect health boards to achieve in delivering services. We have set out our expectations to the Health Boards that they continue to report on how services are developing.

The MS Society is a member of the Wales Neurological Alliance (WNA) and we predominantly engage with them via the WNA. Whilst we do not provide any grants for people with neurological conditions, we have supported the development and implementation of equitable, high-quality services for people living with neurological conditions through funding provided to the Neurological Conditions Implementation Group (NCIG).

As the successor to the NCIG, the Neurological Conditions Strategic Network (NCSN) will be established in the new year within the new [NHS Executive](#). Along with other strategic networks, this will continue to be supported with funding from Welsh Government, and be guided by the outcomes and standards we set out in the [Quality Statement for Neurological Conditions](#). We expect the NHS to work closely with all stakeholders who have role to play in the delivery of safe high-quality care for people in Wales, including third sector organisations. The WNA has been a critical member of the NCIG and we would expect this relationship to continue as the NCIG transitions into the NCSN.

I hope this information is helpful and would like to wish you good luck in your work placement with the Multiple Sclerosis Society (MS) and your law degree.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,