

From Lord Markham Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State

> 39 Victoria Street London SW1H 0EU

Russell George MS
Chair of the Senedd Health and Social Care Committee
By email to:
SeneddHealth@senedd.wales

22 March 2023

Dear Russell,

Thank you for your letter dated 16 February 2023 to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care. As the lead minister for the Provider Selection Regime (PSR) policy, the Secretary of State has asked me to respond on his behalf.

Our plans to establish the PSR in England were set out in the 'Preview' document which UK Government published online last year as part of a consultation. We have not published the response to that consultation yet but will do so ahead of the laying of the PSR regulations before the UK Parliament.

I can confirm that officials from Welsh Government and UK Government have discussed both the PSR and Welsh Government's introduction of the Health Service Procurement (Wales) Bill. Additionally, Minister Caulfield and Minister Morgan corresponded on the PSR most recently this summer and agreed for Welsh and UK Government to continue to work together on the outcomes of the Health and Care Act 2022 – including the delivery of the PSR. To this end UK Government agreed to share the draft regulations for the PSR with Welsh Government to assist Welsh Government in their assessment of the policy.

The UK Government has shared the draft regulations with the Welsh Government. However, these regulations were still in development and were shared in confidence. At this time, UK Government in partnership with NHS England is preparing its final draft of the regulations which will set out the detail of the PSR. We plan to lay the regulations for the PSR in UK Parliament once we have a final draft ready to lay.

The date at which the regulations are laid will also inform our final planned target date to commence the PSR in England. The regulations will be subject to the affirmative parliamentary process before they can come into force.

With my very best wishes,

LORD MARKHAM CBE

MAL