

Mark Drakeford AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref MD/03177/13

William Powell AM
Chair
Petitions Committee
committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

25 November 2013

Dear William

Thank you for your letter of 23 July regarding Robotic Assisted Laparoscopic Prostatectomy. I must apologise for the delay in my response.

Please be assured that prostate cancer patients in Wales have access to a range of well-established and effective treatments. Robotic surgery in prostate cancer treatment is a relatively recent innovation and, at the present time, it is not routinely provided by Health Boards in Wales.

However the Welsh Government does recognise that technology has a major role to play in the future of the NHS in Wales and we have recently announced the Health Technologies Fund, which aims to support and fund technological advances in healthcare. Under this initiative, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board has been given funding for a robotic surgery system at the University Hospital of Wales, which could have benefits for treating a range of conditions in addition to prostate cancer.

I hope this information is helpful.

Best wishes
Mark

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