

**Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus  
Public Accounts Committee**

William Powell AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

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8 March 2012

**Petition on the provision of ambulance services in Monmouthshire**

Dear Bill

I have recently received correspondence from the Auditor General for Wales in response to my letter of 27 February which asked whether he would be conducting any follow-up work on investigations into '*Ambulance Services in Wales*' and '*Unscheduled Care - patient handovers at hospital emergency departments*'.

The Auditor General has advised us that he is currently undertaking an inquiry into unscheduled care services, which involves gauging the process that health boards and the Welsh Ambulance Trust are making against recommendations made in his report '*Unscheduled Care: A Whole Systems Approach*'.

I attach the Auditor General's correspondence for your consideration.

I should be grateful if you could keep me informed of the outcome of any consideration of this issue by your Committee.

Yours sincerely



**Darren Millar AM  
Chair of the Public Accounts Committee**



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Mr Darren Millar AM  
Chair of the Public Accounts Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
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Dear Darren

## **FOLLOW UP WORK ON AMBULANCE SERVICES AND UNSCHEDULED CARE**

Thank you for your letter of 28 February 2012 relating to the petition on the provision of ambulance services in Monmouthshire.

Your query is a timely one as I am actually undertaking follow up work on unscheduled care services at present. The work involves gauging the progress that health boards and the Welsh Ambulance Trust are making against recommendations identified in my previous report "*Unscheduled Care: A Whole Systems Approach*". The work is being taken forward through local audit plans and includes examination of patient handovers at emergency departments.

The findings will initially be reported to each of the individual NHS bodies concerned but I fully expect to prepare a national summary from this work later in the year, as indicated in my recent briefing to the Committee on my programme of value for money studies.

I trust that this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

**HUW VAUGHAN THOMAS**  
AUDITOR GENERAL FOR WALES