

**National Assembly for Wales  
Health and social Services Committee  
Review of Cancer Services for the People of Wales**

<b>Name of respondent:</b> Members of Cardiff Community Health Council
<b>Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?</b> Yes
<b>If so please give the name:</b> Cardiff Community Health Council
<b>Address:</b>  Cardiff Community Health Council Ground Floor Park House Greyfriars Road Cardiff CF10 3AF
<b>Telephone number:</b> 029 20 377407
<b>Would you be willing to give oral evidence to the Committee?</b> Yes
<b>If the evidence you give below is your personal view, rather than that of an organisation, please state whether or not you are willing for your evidence to be published by putting a X in the appropriate box below:</b>
<b>I am content for my evidence to be published</b> X
<b>I am not content for my evidence to be published</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>How can information technology be used more effectively to track and facilitate the patient's journey?</b>
<b>Response</b>	Need to make Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Care more compatible to improve speed and communications.
<b>2</b>	<b>How effectively is research and good practice being integrated with service delivery? What can be done and by whom to improve this?</b>
<b>Response</b>	Needs improvement – eg Breast Test Wales has no research programme. NICE should be utilised but needs to be quicker – more resources.
<b>3</b>	<b>What are your views on the complexity of commissioning services? Is the process hampered by the involvement of the local health boards, cancer networks and Health Commission Wales? How could it be simplified?</b>
<b>Response</b>	Too complex; needs simplifying. Too many commissioning bodies involved. One body required – ‘Cancer Trust’

<b>4</b>	<b>What evidence is there of the value of screening and immunisation?</b>
<b>Response</b>	<p>(i) As a result of cervical screening, the incidence of cervical cancer has been reduced considerably.</p> <p>(ii) Breast Test Wales – early diagnosis has improved the outcomes.</p> <p>(iii) Colo-rectal should be screened.</p> <p>Immunisation against cervical cancer is proven and a programme must be introduced to cover pre-pubescent boys and girls.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>What are the barriers to the NHS in Wales keeping abreast of, and responding to, developing technologies and therapies? How might these barriers be overcome?</b>
<b>Response</b>	<p>Funding.</p> <p>Prioritisation based on evidence to maximise outcomes.</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>How can the NHS and the voluntary sector work together more effectively to deliver services?</b>
<b>Response</b>	<p>Work more collaboratively and communicate availability of funding to NHS.</p>
<b>7</b>	<b>How can the collection and use of data on where the terminally ill spend their last weeks or months be improved better to inform service provision for those people?</b>
<b>Response</b>	<p>Database needs to be set up with more discussion of patient choice.</p>
<b>8</b>	<b>There are a number of issues around prescribing and the cost of drugs:</b>
<b>8(i)</b>	<b>What should be done and by whom to reduce continued prescribing of inappropriate drugs?</b>
<b>Response</b>	<p>NICE guidance must be adhered to. Re-introduce prescription charges.</p>
<b>8(ii)</b>	<b>Should people who are prepared to pay privately for drugs not available to them on the NHS, be able to do so without having to become private patients and having to pay for all their treatment?</b>
<b>Response</b>	<p>Yes - re-introduce prescription charges.</p>
<b>8(iii)</b>	<b>Do doctors, pharmacists and other health professionals have adequate access to <i>independent</i> advice and guidance on the prescribing of drugs?</b>
<b>Response</b>	<p>All have adequate access but only Pharmacists are the experts in drug prescribing.</p>
<b>9</b>	<b>Are services centred on the patient, with service users consulted? If not what are the reasons for this and how patient involvement be improved?</b>
<b>Response</b>	<p>No – patients in cancer centres are consulted but in general hospitals services are patchy.</p>

	Anonymised patient satisfaction surveys. Patients should be consulted in the compilation of the questionnaire so that the right questions are asked – eg choice of end of life venue, etc.
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Thank you for responding. If possible please e-mail your response to [jane.westlake@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:jane.westlake@wales.gsi.gov.uk) . Alternatively post it to Jane Westlake, Clerk to the Health and Social Services Committee, Room B4.07, National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay Cardiff, CF99 1NA. **The closing date for responses is Monday 24 July 2006**