

Dear party leader,

For over a decade there have been calls for changes that improve the experiences of people with incurable secondary breast cancer across the UK. But across too many areas, change has been slow or not forthcoming.

Research conducted by Breast Cancer Now has shown that many people with secondary breast cancer feel they are not acknowledged, experience delays in diagnosis, struggle to access the support of a specialist nurse and fear they won't be able to access the treatments they need in the future.

Following this research, Breast Cancer Now, along with incredible women from our Secondary Breast Cancer campaign group, set out the urgent action needed to improve the lives of people living with secondary breast cancer in Wales.

We know the NHS is facing huge pressure and are thankful for the NHS staff who have supported the continuation of cancer services. It is critical that the next Welsh Government work with the NHS and cancer sector to support the recovery of breast cancer services, as well as plan for their long-term future. In particular, improving treatment and support for people living with secondary breast cancer must remain a priority. Our recommendations:

- The next Welsh Government should work with the NHS to explore future options to collect routine data on secondary breast cancer patients, for example, how can staging data be used to help build a clearer picture of secondary breast cancer across Wales. This would help begin to address gaps in services for this patient group.
- The next Welsh Government should work with the NHS to develop and utilise tools and resources to help GPs recognise cases of secondary breast cancer as quickly as possible, and provide all patients with information on the signs and symptoms of secondary breast cancer, as part of follow-up support after primary breast cancer. Also to explore as part of considering the next steps for Rapid Diagnostic Clinics, following piloting, of their potential to support earlier diagnoses of secondary breast cancer.
- The next Welsh Government should review and publish a breakdown of the current number of FTE CNSs supporting people with secondary breast cancer and how much time they dedicate to doing this. This would help to understand the role of the cancer nursing workforce to support those living with metastatic cancer. It should also

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provide the investment needed to recruit and train enough CNSs to support people with secondary breast cancer now and in the future.

We recognise these are challenging times, with the pandemic leading to significant disruption to breast cancer services across the UK. But we stand ready to work with the next Welsh Government over the next five years to deliver change for people affected by breast cancer. Specifically, we ask that action to ensure people with secondary breast cancer live well for longer is included in your party's manifesto.

If you would like any further information, please don't hesitate to contact us by email: publicaffairs@breastcancernow.org.

Yours sincerely,



Baroness Delyth Morgan, Chief Executive, Breast Cancer Now

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Annwyl arweinwyr y pleidiau,

Am dros ddegawd bu galwadau am newidiadau sy'n gwella profiadau pobl â chanser y fron eilaidd anwelladwy ledled y DU. Ond ar draws gormod o ardaloedd, mae'r newid wedi bod yn araf neu ddim ar ddod.

Mae ymchwil a gynhaliwyd gan Breast Cancer Now wedi dangos bod llawer o bobl â chanser y fron eilaidd yn teimlo nad ydyn nhw'n cael eu cydnabod, yn profi oedi cyn cael diagnosis, yn ei chael hi'n anodd cael gafael ar gefnogaeth nyrs arbenigol ac yn ofni na fyddan nhw'n gallu cyrchu'r triniaethau sydd eu hangen arnyn nhw yn y dyfodol.

Yn dilyn yr ymchwil hon, nododd Breast Cancer Now, ynghyd â menywod anhygoel o'n grŵp ymgyrchu Canser y Fron Eilaidd, y camau brys sydd eu hangen i wella bywydau pobl sy'n byw gyda chanser y fron eilaidd yng Nghymru.

Rydym yn gwybod bod y GIG yn wynebu pwysau enfawr ac rydym yn ddiolchgar i staff y GIG sydd wedi cefnogi parhad gwasanaethau canser. Mae'n hanfodol bod Llywodraeth Cymru nesaf yn gweithio gyda'r GIG a'r sector canser i gefnogi adferiad gwasanaethau canser y fron, yn ogystal â chynllunio ar gyfer eu dyfodol hir dymor. Yn benodol, rhaid i wella triniaeth a chefnogaeth i bobl sy'n byw gyda chanser y fron eilaidd barhau i fod yn flaenoriaeth. Ein hargymhellion:

- Dylai Llywodraeth Cymru nesaf weithio gyda'r GIG i archwilio opsiynau yn y dyfodol i gasglu data arferol ar gleifion canser y fron eilaidd, er enghraifft, sut y gellir defnyddio data o wahanol gamau i helpu i adeiladu darlun cliriach o ganser y fron eilaidd ledled Cymru. Byddai hyn yn helpu i ddechrau mynd i'r afael â bylchau mewn gwasanaethau ar gyfer y grŵp hwn o gleifion.
- Dylai Llywodraeth Cymru nesaf weithio gyda'r GIG i ddatblygu a defnyddio offer ac adnoddau i helpu meddygon teulu i adnabod achosion o ganser y fron eilaidd cyn gynted â phosibl, a rhoi gwybodaeth i bob claf am arwyddion a symptomau canser y fron eilaidd, fel rhan o gefnogaeth ddilynol canser y fron sylfaenol. Hefyd i archwilio fel rhan o ystyried y camau nesaf ar gyfer Clinigau Diagnostig Cyflym, ar ôl treialu, eu potensial i gefnogi diagnosisu cynharach o ganser y fron eilaidd.
- Dylai Llywodraeth Cymru nesaf adolygu a chyhoeddi dadansoddiad o nifer gyfredol y nyrsys clinigol arbenigol cyfwerth ag amser llawn sy'n cefnogi pobl â chanser y fron eilaidd a faint o amser y maent yn ei neilltuo i wneud hyn. Byddai hyn yn helpu i ddeall rôl y gweithlu nyrsio canser i gefnogi'r rhai sy'n byw gyda chanser metastatig.

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Dylai hefyd ddarparu'r buddsoddiad sydd ei angen i recriwtio a hyfforddi digon o nyrsys clinigol arbenigol i gefnogi pobl â chanser y fron eilaidd nawr ac yn y dyfodol.

Rydym yn cydnabod bod y rhain yn gyfnodau heriol, gyda'r pandemig yn arwain at aflonyddwch sylweddol i wasanaethau canser y fron ledled y DU. Ond rydyn ni'n barod i weithio gyda Llywodraeth Cymru nesaf dros y pum mlynedd nesaf i sicrhau newid i bobl yr effeithir arnynt gan ganser y fron.

Yn benodol, gofynnwn fod camau i sicrhau bod pobl â chanser y fron eilaidd yn byw yn dda am gyfnod hirach yn cael eu cynnwys ym maniffesto eich plaid.

Os hoffech gael unrhyw wybodaeth bellach, peidiwch ag oedi i gysylltu â ni ar e-bost: publicaffairs@breastcancernow.org.

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,



Y Farwnes Delyth Morgan, Prif Weithredwr, Breast Cancer Now

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