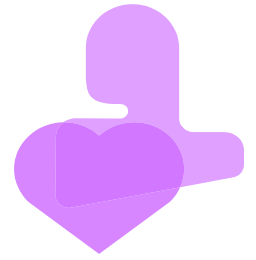




CFS/ME SUPPORT, HELP and ACTION
established in 1987

Caring for our CFS/ME Service in Cornwall



MESH Patron: Professor AJ Pinching

**Re: the Review of the CORNWALL CFS/ME Service.
For the attention of the RCHT Chief Executive Lezli Boswell
and the CFS/ME Service Review decision makers.**

With the NHS-run CFS/ME Service for Cornwall experiencing a shortage of expert medical cover and recent closure to new referrals, I am writing in deep concern about the effect that the Review will have on this invaluable Flagship Service and consequently its patients.

With approximately 300 new referrals and more than 1000 follow-up consultations, per annum, the CFS/ME Service clearly has a significant and proven patient need.

Research shows that early diagnosis of CFS/ME is crucial. In addition, as a wide spectrum illness, a tailored approach is necessary for each case; therefore, referral to an expert medical team is essential.

Furthermore, the extremely debilitating symptoms make it impossible for many patients to travel as far as CFS/ME clinics in Truro, therefore, the spread of 'outreach' clinics across Cornwall is an informed decision to answer the needs of patients and should be protected.

It is imperative that our invaluable CFS/ME Service be strengthened - with increased expert medical hours, reduced waiting times and 'outreach' clinics protected - to safeguard the health of CFS/ME patients using the Service now and in the future. Thank you.

NAME:

YOUR STATUS:

TOWN AND POST CODE

DATE:

**Please return this letter and any comments (overleaf) by 21st February to:
Elaine Peller Chairman of MESH Cornwall
39 Pentowan Gardens HAYLE TR27 5AZ**