



Ein cyf/Our ref VG/00485/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

16 March 2020

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter of 10 February on behalf of the Petition Committee regarding Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health about Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board's proposals for changes to health services in the region.

In 2014, the health board held a formal public consultation on the South Wales Programme proposals to address major challenges faced by many hospitals in recruiting and retaining highly skilled staff in certain speciality areas. The consultation led to agreement to make a number of significant changes to how services are delivered including changes to services at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital. Some of these changes have already been delivered.

Where changes have not been implemented many of the issues which triggered the original consultation remain or have worsened. However, given the time that has elapsed since 2014 the health board is now considering whether the outcome of the South Wales Programme remains the best way forward. Four options for the future of A&E services at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital were discussed at its Board meeting held on 30 January. These included the option to replace A&E with a minor Injuries unit as agreed in the South Wales Programme along with other options that would see an A&E service remaining at the site.

In deciding which of these options best enables the provision of safe and sustainable services for the people of Cwm Taf I expect the health board to work closely with staff, the public and all key partners in line with extant service change guidance.

At this stage, the proposals remain a matter for the health board to determine. However, it is possible that, in line with the guidance, the final decisions may be referred to me for consideration. I hope you will therefore appreciate that I am currently unable to comment on any of the proposals, as it may compromise my future role in the process.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

I do, however, encourage you to engage with the health board and have your say in helping to shape future services. Further information on how you can get involved can be found here:

<https://cwmtafmorgannwg.wales/proposed-service-changes-at-royal-glamorgan-hospital/>

Thank you again for taking the time to write to us on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'V' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'g'.

Vaughan Gething AC/AM

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services