



GIG
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WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd
Hywel Dda
Health Board

Dyddiad/Date: 19 November 2012
Ein cyf/Our ref:
Gofynnwch am/Please ask for: Emma Crees
Rhif Ffôn /Telephone: 01437 771244
Ffacs/Facsimile: 01437 771222
E-bost/E-mail: Trevor.purt@wales.nhs.uk

William Powell AC/AM
Chair
Petitions Committee
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Dear Mr Powell

Petition: P-04-430/431

Thank you for your letter dated 13 November 2012.

As you are aware, the Health Board has recently concluded a 12 week formal consultation in relation to our future service configuration. The purpose of the consultation was to raise awareness of the challenges facing the NHS at both local and national levels and to put forward potential solutions that meet the requirements of Together for Health, other Welsh Government policy and the requirements of the various professional groups (eg the Royal Colleges and the Welsh Deanery).

In terms of the specific petitions:

- Tenby MIU. The Health Board had previously received a petition when the unit was temporarily closed last winter. The issue at that time was that there was no alternative service provision in place. Our consultation and supporting technical documents clearly articulated the intention to reprovide minor injuries services in a different way and we must balance the provision of an MIU in Tenby against the needs of the A&E Unit in Withybush.

Pencadlys Bwrdd Iechyd Hywel Dda
Llys Myrddin, Lôn Winch, Hwlfordd,
Sir Benfro, SA61 1SB
Rhif Ffôn: (01437) 771220
Rhif Ffacs: (01437) 771222

Hywel Dda Health Board Headquarters
Merlins Court, Winch Lane, Haverfordwest,
Pembrokeshire, SA61 1SB
Tel Nr: (01437) 771220
Fax Nr: (01437) 771222

Cadeirydd / Chairman
Mr Chris Martin
Prif Weithredwr /Chief Executive
Mr Trevor Purt

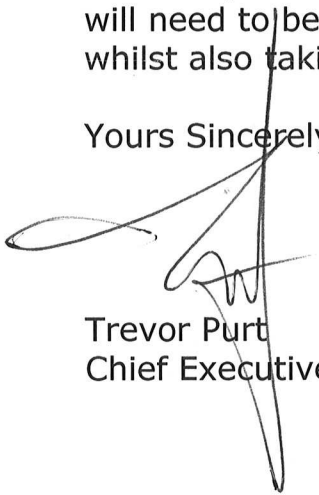
- Withybush Hospital. The Health Board is well aware of the views from Pembrokeshire residents in relation to Withybush from public meetings held in the county. Once again, the case for change is clearly articulated in the consultation documentation and the preferred options were subject to an appraisal process that directly compared potential Withybush solutions against alternatives. We are in discussions with our medical teams to ensure that we consider the Pembrokeshire petition and appraise these views alongside our declared preferred options.

The options put forward for consideration for consultation were developed following a comprehensive options appraisal process and any alternative solutions will be subject to the same assessment.

It is clear that each service change will potentially be emotive and will attract a wide range of public opinion and it is the Health Board's task to consider all feedback submitted - including these two petitions - in developing the final recommendations for the Board to approve. That process of analysis is underway and will inform the decision-making process.

We are committed to continuing the consultation process in an open and transparent manner and we will feedback to the public and our staff how we reach any of the decisions we make. Any changes the health board supports will need to be sustainable, safe and show improved outcomes for our patients whilst also taking into account the range of views expressed to us.

Yours Sincerely



Trevor Purt
Chief Executive