

**Eluned Morgan AS/MS**  
**Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol**  
**Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care**



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Russell George MS  
Chair  
Health and Social Care Committee  
Senedd Cymru

[Seneddhealth@senedd.cymru](mailto:Seneddhealth@senedd.cymru)

12 July 2024

Dear Russell

I am writing to make you aware the new special measures framework, including de-escalation criteria for Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, has been agreed between the Director General for Health, Social Care and Early Years/NHS Wales Chief Executive and the chief executive of the health board.

This replaces the first year [special measures framework](#). It includes a set of de-escalation criteria and sets out the expectations and milestones that will be considered before a de-escalation from level five (special measures) to level four (targeted intervention) can be agreed.

At the request of the Welsh Government, the special measures framework and agreed priorities for the next six months (April to September 2024) were shared with the board at its meeting on 30 May 2024, as part of the chief executive's report. These documents are available on p187 of the board's papers: [bcuhb.nhs.wales/about-us/health-board-meetings-and-members/health-board-meetings/bcuhb-agenda-30524-v20/](https://bcuhb.nhs.wales/about-us/health-board-meetings-and-members/health-board-meetings/bcuhb-agenda-30524-v20/)

De-escalation decisions will be based on an overall assessment of progress across the domains rather than absolute achievement of each criteria under each domain. For de-escalation to the next level to be considered, the Director General for Health, Social Care and Early Years/NHS Wales Chief Executive and her team will need a reasonable level of confidence that sufficient progress towards the de-escalation criteria has been made and that improvements are sustainable. This progress will be triangulated with evidence from the tripartite partners and other stakeholders.

At the appropriate time, the Director General for Health, Social Care and Early Years/NHS Wales Chief Executive will provide me with advice and a clear recommendation based on this assessment. This will enable me to make a decision. De-escalation will be to the next level of the [NHS oversight and escalation framework](#), initially from level five to four, with reduced oversight and reporting at each stage of de-escalation.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

[Gohebiaeth.Eluned.Morgan@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Eluned.Morgan@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Eluned.Morgan@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Eluned.Morgan@gov.wales)

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 will continue to seek ongoing assurance about progress through my monthly review meetings with the health board chair and the quarterly special measures improvement forum meetings, which the Minister for Mental Health and Early Years and I have with the board.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. E. Morgan'.

**Eluned Morgan AS/MS**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol  
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care