



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Betsi Cadwaladr  
University Health Board

Bloc 5, Llys Carlton, Parc Busnes Llanelwy,  
Llanelwy, LL17 0JG

-----  
Block 5, Carlton Court, St Asaph Business  
Park, St Asaph, LL17 0JG

Carolyn Thomas MS,  
Chair,  
Petitions Committee,  
Welsh Parliament,  
Cardiff Bay,  
Cardiff,  
CF99 1SN

**Ein cyf / Our ref:** CS/CT(CE24/1198)

**☎:** 01745 448788 ext 6382

**Gofynnwch am / Ask for:** Emma Hughes

**E-bost / Email:** [emma.hughes19@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:emma.hughes19@wales.nhs.uk)

**Dyddiad / Date:** 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025

By email – [petitions@senedd.wales](mailto:petitions@senedd.wales)

Dear Chair,

**RE: P-06-1405 We want and need a Mental Health unit for men in North Wales with beds**

The Health Board welcomes this opportunity to provide an update for the Petitions Committee. We respond given your request to seek clarification on **the number of mental health in patient places available to adults, and whether any of these are designated according to gender.**

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) provides mental health services for the population of North Wales. In response to the specific question - all 3 hospitals provide beds for acute adult mental health admissions:

- The **Hergest Unit** (in Ysbyty Gwynedd) has Cynan ward (with 17 beds for male patients) and Aneurin Ward (with 17 beds for female patients).
- The **Ablett Unit** (in Ysbyty Glan Clwyd) has Dinas Male ward (with 10 beds for male patients) and Dinas female ward (with 10 female patients).
- The **Heddfan Unit** (in Ysbyty Maelor Wrecsam) includes both Clywedog and Dyfrdwy wards. (Each has 19 beds). The ward areas are able to accommodate mixed sex admissions due to the design of the estate which can be formally segregated with the use of double doors that can be locked.

In total, the Health Board (HB) have 92 adult acute inpatient beds – 27 specifically for men and 27 for women, and another 38 which can be used more flexibly.

*(The HB has other beds with the MHLDD division – indirectly those for older adult functional patients, dementia patients and learning patients. The HB also has beds in the Medium Secure Unit (Ty Llewelyn), within the Psychiatric Intensive Care Wards and on rehabilitation wards).*

---

**Cyfeiriad Gohebiaeth ar gyfer y Cadeirydd a'r Prif Weithredwr / Correspondence address for Chairman and Chief Executive:**  
Swyddfa'r Gweithredwyr / Executives' Office  
Ysbyty Gwynedd, Penrhosgarnedd  
Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2PW

**Gwefan:** [www.pbc.cymru.nhs.uk](http://www.pbc.cymru.nhs.uk) / **Web:** [www.bcu.wales.nhs.uk](http://www.bcu.wales.nhs.uk)

Mae Swyddfa'r Prif Weithredwr yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a bydd yn sicrhau y darperir ymateb yn Gymraeg heb oedi.  
The Chief Executive's Office welcomes correspondence through the medium of Welsh and will ensure that a response is provided in Welsh without incurring a delay



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Betsi Cadwaladr  
University Health Board

To support the Committee discussions – the HB has provided the below update on some of its key services and men’s mental health.

Of note, are the Mental Health ICAN Hubs which can be accessed on a ‘drop in’ basis. The Health Board (HB) also has an ICAN connectors programme which can help sign-post people to appropriate services, and an ICAN occupational therapy programme in primary care is also underway. Most recently, an ‘ICAN farming’ pilot has been agreed (utilising charitable funds). This is at a procurement/tender stage, and has a specific link to men’s health in rural communities.

The HB is progressing its work on service user/carer engagement and involvement, with workshops (online and in person) being held. The HB has reached out to people across North Wales to help co-produce a new strategy. During Men’s Health Week 2025 (June), a virtual discussion is being planned with stakeholders internal and external to BCUHB with a focus on men’s health. The aim is to raise awareness about men’s health issues, and encourage men to take care of their physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing. It is anticipated that this year’s virtual discussion focus will be on violence and trauma especially amongst the 18 – 30 age group.

The North Wales Together for Mental Health Partnership Board is also active, chaired by the Vice Chairman of the Health Board. The Partnership Board ensures links with the Welsh Government, thus ensuring the HB and partners are aligned with the new Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Wales and also the new Suicide and Self Harm Prevention Strategy (when published).

Within the HB, the Wellness, Work and Health service also acknowledges the need to provide support for men working within the Mental Health and Learning Disabilities (MHLDD) Division. The North Wales Suicide and Self Harm group is also active and meeting regularly with the HB supported by the NHS Executive suicide and self-harm prevention coordinator for North Wales. This group is also looking forward to the publication of the new national strategy on suicide and self-harm prevention.

Service wise, the ‘111, press 2’ service is available seven days a week, while information regarding mental health crisis is available on the HB website. Additionally, in terms of Community Services, the HB has a number of Community Mental Health Teams (CMHT) across North Wales. The HB also hosts the CALL (Community Advice and Listening Line) line for Wales which also offers emotional support and information/literature on mental health and related matters for all the people in Wales.

I do hope this update can support the Petition Committee conversations. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Health Board once more.

Kind regards,



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Betsi Cadwaladr  
University Health Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carol Shillabeer'.

---

**Carol Shillabeer**  
**Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive**