

Carolyn Thomas MS
Chair of the Petitions Committee
Senedd Petitions Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff CF99 1SN

3rd March 2026

Dear Chair,

Request for Urgent Debate – Petition on Withybush Hospital Services

We write jointly to request that the Petition entitled “Urgent Pembrokeshire Healthcare & Resident Safety - Withybush Hospital & Health Board Intervention” be scheduled for debate in the Senedd at the earliest available opportunity.

The petition has now surpassed 10,000 signatures, the threshold set by the Senedd for consideration for debate - demonstrating the depth of public concern across Pembrokeshire and beyond. The strength and speed of public engagement reflect genuine anxiety about recent decisions taken by Hywel Dda University Health Board, including the withdrawal of emergency general surgery from Withybush Hospital.

Residents, clinicians, ambulance staff and community organisations have expressed serious concerns regarding patient safety, increased travel times, service centralisation and the cumulative impact of successive downgrades. The petition explicitly raises fears that the re-configuration of services presents a risk to public safety.

Given the gravity of these concerns, and the fact that the Senedd will shortly be dissolved ahead of the next election, we believe it is essential that this matter is debated before dissolution. The people of Pembrokeshire deserve the opportunity for their elected representatives to scrutinise these changes in full and for the Welsh Government to respond formally on the record.

We therefore respectfully urge the Petitions Committee to:

1. Expedite consideration of the petition;
2. Recommend it for plenary debate before dissolution; and
3. Ensure that the Welsh Government is required to set out clearly what intervention, oversight or assurances it will provide regarding the future of services at Withybush Hospital.

This issue goes beyond routine service reconfiguration. It concerns public confidence, equitable access to care in rural communities, and patient safety.

We would be grateful for confirmation of the Committee’s intended timetable for consideration.

Kind regards,



Paul Davies MS

Member of the Senedd for Preseli Pembrokeshire



Samuel Kurtz MS

Member of the Senedd for Carmarthen West & South Pembrokeshire