



**GIG**  
CYMRU  
**NHS**  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd  
Hywel Dda  
Health Board

Eich cyf/Your ref:	P-04-348	Address:	Headquarters
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Dyddiad/Date: Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2012

William Powell  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Bae Caerdydd/Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd/Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Dear Mr Powell

**Re: P-04-348 Recycling Targets for Health Boards**

I write in response to your letter dated 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011 with regard to the above, recycling rates at Maelor Hospital in Wrexham.

From our perspective, the Health Board is committed to improving its waste management practices and making a positive contribution to the Welsh Government's Waste Strategy 'Towards Zero Waste'. This is an overarching strategy for Wales, which sets out high level performance indicators that although not specific to the health sector, they can be used as a guide. HDHB has produced a Waste Strategy which is currently out to consultation. The HB strategy sets out the following specific targets: -

- 1) Improve data collection for all wastes from all sites and Board activities
- 2) Reduce overall waste arisings by 1.5% per annum
- 3) Reduce healthcare waste as a proportion of all wastes produced to no more than 1/3
- 4) Reduce reliance on landfill disposal and ensure that **30%** of non-healthcare waste is recycled/recovered by 2013 and **50%** by 2015/16

I have attached the Health Board 2-year Action Plan to achieve the above targets which includes the introduction of a new general waste contract and increasing re-cycling across the whole Organisation.

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

(2)

I am unsure whether the reference to the Maelor Hospital in Wrexham reflects all waste generated, including Clinical Waste (that cannot be recycled) or is a domestic waste recycling position. In terms of Hywel Dda, the current recycling rate taken into account all waste generated is at 15%. A comparable rate, excluding Clinical waste is at 25%. As an example Glangwili General Hospital has a 16.7% all waste recycling rate and a 29.7% domestic recycling rate). Our objective in 2012/13 is to achieve the 30% domestic recycling rate target.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'PP Trevor Purt', written over a horizontal line.

Trevor Purt  
**Chief Executive**

## **ACTION PLAN**

In order to move towards its overall objectives, the Board has set out its action plan for the financial years 2011-12 and 2012-13.

### **2011/12 Action Plan**

Within the financial year, the Board intends to:

- Set up a Sustainability and Environmental Management Steering Group;
- Let a single, Board wide general (domestic) waste and recycling contract;
- Complete implementation of a colour coding system for healthcare waste segregation in line with current best practice (Department of Health guidance 'Safe Management of Healthcare Waste');
- Standardise the recycling of cardboard, paper, plastics and tins/cans across acute and community hospital sites operated by the Board;
- Develop and disseminate waste policies and procedures
- Investigate the practicalities of separate food waste collections and disposal options, and implement as appropriate at some sites;

### **2012/13 Action Plan**

It is currently planned that the Board's action plan for the financial year 2012/13 will comprise the following actions, in addition to any actions not fully implemented during 2011/12:

- Issue a standardised waste arising template for data reporting
- Implement a central, comprehensive data monitoring system covering all waste streams generated by the Board through its daily activities;
- Implement an Environmental Management System (ISO14001) across all sites operated by the Board in line with Welsh Assembly Government requirements;
- Further develop, and improve the use of, a full range of recycling schemes at all sites
- Undertake internal waste management audits;
- Prepare a further 2 year action plan.