

Vaughan Gething AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau
Cymdeithasol
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-791
Ein cyf/Our ref VG/02792/17

David John Rowlands AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

government.committee.business@gov.wales

21 November 2017

Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of 23 October regarding Petition P-05-791 from Nick Harding regarding terminating private parking contracts at Welsh hospitals.

I note the issues raised in the petition.

Since 1 April 2008 car parking on all health board and NHS trust sites in Wales has been provided free of charge, except where external contracts are in place. I note that this is not the position in England. Where external contracts were in place at that time NHS organisations were asked to reduce costs until these contracts ended. The costs of withdrawing from the individual contracts were considered prohibitive.

There is an external car parking contract in place at the University Hospital Wales (UHW) which expires in March 2018 and after this on site parking will be free. It is one of only three remaining hospitals in Wales that still charge for car parking and all the external contracts will end in 2018.

The UHW is the largest hospital in Wales with over 16,000 vehicles entering the site each day. Cardiff and Vale University Health Board has introduced measures to manage car parking on the site. This has been done for operational reasons. It is to take action to prevent illegal parking and to ensure pedestrian safety and access for emergency vehicles.

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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.

After the external contract expires in 2018 at UHW and it is free to park for patients, staff and visitors the Health Board will still need to manage their car parking on a day to day basis. The need for appropriate enforcement measures for illegal parking and similar transgressions will still apply. As parking will be free the Health Board will also need to ensure that those parking at the site are there to use the hospital.

The cases that went to court involve multiple outstanding car parking charges for illegal and unsafe parking by staff incurred over the last year. I understand 98% of the staff comply with the car parking arrangements on site.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'V'.

Vaughan Gething AC/AM

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