

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol at y Cyfarfod Llawn Information Further to Plenary

Cyhoeddir ymatebion yn yr iaith y'u darparwyd, gyda chyfieithiad Saesneg o ymatebion yn y Gymraeg.

Responses are published in the language in which they are provided, with a translation into English of responses provided in Welsh.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at y Datganiad a Chyhoeddiad Busnes a gyhoeddwyd gan Lesley Griffiths, y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, ar 29 Ionawr 2012 Information further to the Business Statement and Announcement issued by Lesley Griffiths, the Minister for Health and Social Services, on 29 January 2012

At/To Paul Davies:

During Business Questions on 24 January you raised concerns about treatment for cataracts in the Hywel Dda Health Board area. You have also raised the matter with the First Minister.

I am aware there have been concerns with ophthalmology services in the region. My Consultant Optometric Advisor has been working closely with the Health Board and has raised the issue in regular performance management meetings. I understand the Health Board has seen a significant increase in year on year demand for ophthalmology services, which has inevitably led to increasing pressures.

To address this, the Health Board has put in place a range of actions and is developing an ophthalmology model via the Clinical Strategy Workshop. A revised cataract management scheme has been agreed and this is now in the process of implementation. Patients who have undergone cataract surgery in one eye will be referred back to their optometrist for monitoring if a cataract is present in the other eye. The patient will then be referred directly to the ophthalmology unit according to agreed protocols for surgical intervention.

I am assured those with the highest need are given treatment first, and if a patient needs an operation on both cataracts to preserve their sight, then they will be prioritised.

My officials continue to monitor the situation and a meeting has been scheduled for 30 January with the Welsh Government's Delivery and Support Unit to discuss progress.