

Vivienne Harwood, Cadeirydd / Chair

Ffon / Phone: [REDACTED]  
E-bost / Email: [REDACTED]



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd  
Addysgu Powys  
Powys Teaching  
Health Board

Carol Shilabeer, Y Prif Weithredwr Dros Dro /  
Interim Chief Executive

Ffon / Phone: [REDACTED]  
E-bost / Email: [REDACTED]

Ref: CS/sj

18<sup>th</sup> March 2015

David Rees AM  
Chair – Health and Social Care Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Dear Chair

**Re: Enquiry into Ambulance Services in Wales**

Further to your letter of 6<sup>th</sup> march 2015 I provide below an outline of the Powys teaching Health Board position. As you will be aware we do not have any Accident and Emergency Departments within Powys, although we do have a number of Minor Injury Units/services which provide a positive role as part of the unscheduled care network. The teaching Health Board is working collectively with other commissioners and with providers of services to improve access to and the experience of unscheduled care services for our population, whether within Powys or in our related District General Hospitals. I understand that the information asked of other Health Boards will include ambulances where a Powys resident has been taken to the A & E department.

In relation to your second specific request, I can confirm that Powys teaching Health is taking an active role in reducing the demand for ambulances where clinically appropriate and offering alternative service solutions. This includes our Minor Injury Units and Minor Injury Services of which there are several across Powys, and more recently over the last 2 years further developments in primary care including the introduction of virtual wards to some areas.

Through these efforts, we anticipate reducing the numbers of people who could attend an A & E and thus contribute to the effective flow of patients through the A & E and hospital system. Furthermore, as part of our



commissioning arrangements active discussions take place with providers of A & E services in relation to the effectiveness of unscheduled care systems that Powys residents utilise.

I recognise that the direct provision services of Powys teaching Health Board differ to other Health Boards, nonetheless I hope this information is helpful to you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Shillabeer', followed by a period.

Carol Shillabeer  
Interim Chief Executive