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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Betsi Cadwaladr
University Health Board

Mr William Powell AC / AM
Chair
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CARDIFF CF99 1NA

Ein cyf / Our ref: TP/SB/3360/294

Eich cyf / Your ref:

☎: 01248 384910

Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Linda Hughes

E-bost / Email: linda.hughes@wales.nhs.uk

Dyddiad / Date: 31 March 2015

Dear Mr Powell

Petition P 04-479 Tywyn Memorial X-ray and Minor Injuries Unit
Petition P-04-466 Medical Emergency – Preventing the Introduction of a Poorer Health Service for North Wales

I am writing to follow up on your letter of December 2014 requesting an update after a further three months on progress on service development and delivery following the publication of the Mid Wales Healthcare Study.

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the Petitioner's concerns as expressed in the correspondence. I understand that there remain concerns in the area regarding the opening hours of the Minor Injuries Unit and there has been significant previous correspondence with yourselves and others regarding this matter. I will give an update below on current activity at the Minor Injuries Unit but also on some other developments which may offer further reassurance that we are seeking to address the needs of the local community better.

We continue to monitor the extent of demand for the minor injuries service and also attendances at other nearby hospitals in the area. Data for the calendar year 2014 shows that there were 1,028 attendances at Tywyn MIU by Tywyn residents during the year, or an average of just under 20 a week. During the same year there were 128 attendances at Dolgellau MIU, which is the next nearest, equivalent to 2 or 3 a week. There are small numbers of attendances at other hospitals in North Wales for Tywyn residents. The level of demand therefore remains relatively low. Numbers attending during evenings and weekends are a small proportion of these (evening attendances: Dolgellau – 28, Tywyn - 18, for the year; weekends in winter months: Dolgellau – 27, with 22 attendances showing as attending Tywyn during weekends, which may relate to ad hoc calls at Tywyn).

Patients have, over recent months been supported on a couple of occasions with video conferencing to the hub at Llandudno Hospital which is supporting minor injury care across the Health Board using VC technology. This enables the Emergency Medicine Consultant and Advanced Nurse Practitioner at Llandudno to support care and reduce unnecessary journeys.



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The Health Board has used Healthcare Technology Funding to purchase telehealth equipment for Tywyn Hospital which is being installed as part of the redevelopment and will further improve remote support. The Health Board's CARTREF project (CARE delivered with Telemedicine to support Rural Elderly and Frail patients), working with the HTTF, will roll out remote teleconsultation outpatient clinics; remote support of inpatients; some GP out of hours consultations and pharmacists supply of drugs following video consultation.

We believe that these developments will prove extremely helpful to local residents and also sustain the local service model. The use of telemedicine and telehealth is one of the areas flagged by the Mid Wales Healthcare Study.

With regard to the Study, in February the Health Board held an open public meeting in Tywyn to share the findings of the report and to hear local people's views. The meeting was supported also by the Medical Director of Hywel Dda Health Board. Those attending welcomed the approach of the two Health Boards in working together to address the issues. The notes of this meeting will be shared widely once translated. We have committed to holding a further update meeting in six months' time.

The Mid Wales Healthcare Collaborative has since been formally launched at the Conference held in Newtown in March at which senior Health Board representatives were present. The Collaborative will be establishing an Implementation Group and we will support the work of both the Implementation Group and the Collaborative in moving forward.

Finally, I am attaching a brief note of the progress on the Tywyn Hospital redevelopment which may be of help.

Yours sincerely

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

Prof Trevor Purt
Chief Executive

Enc



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TYWYN HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT

In August 2013 Welsh Government approved funding of £5million for the development of services at Tywyn Hospital. The scheme is designed to integrate primary care and community hospital services through the provision of a new build primary care centre and a sixteen bed ward on the site.

The new ward will provide vast improvements in patient dignity, privacy and comfort. It is also designed to allow greater flexibility in terms of use so it can provide palliative care, rehabilitation and assessment plus take transfers from other hospitals, thus reducing delayed transfers of care. The existing ward area will be refurbished to house community clinics and other services displaced by the demolition of the existing wing.

Delivery of this scheme will ensure that the Health Board will achieve the following:

- Ensure that primary and community services are developed to meet the needs of the local population and ensure that services are provided as close to the patient's home as possible
- Fully utilise the community hospital and bring new services to the site, which will enhance the service provided for the local population
- Bring, where clinically appropriate and possible, as many services into the community, to be delivered within the hospital, GP Surgery and people's own homes
- Modernise and innovate, and where possible, relocate specialist services within primary and community based settings
- Improve the management of long term chronic illness and conditions
- Facilitate the General Practitioners to practice effectively across a whole range of diseases ensuring integrated care close to the patient's home
- Provide modern facilities to undertake more local diagnostic investigation of patients, reducing the need for multiple acute hospital visits
- Provide flexible space which may be used by other key partners such as Social Services. This would ensure effective planning of community services and identify options for multidisciplinary working

Demolition and site enabling works commenced in April 2014 and the subsequent construction work has made good progress. Following completion of the steel frame, the stairs have been installed and the first and second floor slabs are in place. The roof is now over 70% complete and external cladding of the building is progressing. Currently the scheme is scheduled for completion in November 2015.

As part of the implementation of the Health Technology Fund, new VC technologies will be introduced into the site.

Separately, the Tywyn and District Memorial Hospital Appeal Fund has generously supported new X-ray equipment for the site, and this scheme is scheduled to start on site at the end of March 2015.



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AILDDATBLYGU YSBYTY TYWYN

Ym mis Awst 2013, cymeradwyodd Llywodraeth Cymru gyllid o £5miliwn ar gyfer datblygu gwasanaethau yn Ysbyty Tywyn. Bwriad y cynllun yw cyfuno gwasanaethau gofal cychwynnol ac ysbyty cymuned drwy ddarparu canolfan gofal cychwynnol a ward 16 gwely newydd ar y safle.

Bydd y ward newydd yn cynnig gwelliannau sylweddol o ran urddas, preifatrwydd a chyfforddusrwydd cleifion. Bydd hefyd wedi'i gynllunio i fod yn fwy hyblyg o ran defnydd, fel y gellir darparu gofal lliniarol, gwasanaethau adsefydlu ac asesu a derbyn cleifion o ysbytai eraill, fydd yn golygu y bydd llai o oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal. Bydd y ward bresennol yn cael ei hailwampio i gynnwys clinigau cymuned a gwasanaethau eraill o'r adran fydd yn cael ei dymchwel.

Bydd darparu'r cynllun hwn yn golygu y bydd y Bwrdd Iechyd yn cyflawni'r canlynol:

- Sicrhau bod gwasanaethau cychwynnol a chymuned yn cael eu datblygu i fodloni anghenion y boblogaeth leol a sicrhau bod gwasanaethau'n cael eu darparu mor agos a phosibl at gartrefi cleifion
- Gwneud defnydd llawn o'r ysbyty cymuned a dod a gwasanaethau newydd i'r safle, fydd yn gwella'r gwasanaeth a gynigir i'r boblogaeth leol
- Pan fo hynny'n briodol ac yn bosibl yn glinigol, dod a chymaint o wasanaethau a phosibl i'r gymuned - i'w darparu yn yr ysbyty, y feddygfa a chartrefi pobl
- Moderneiddio ac arloesi, a phan fo hynny'n bosibl, symud gwasanaethau arbenigol i leoliadau cychwynnol a chymuned
- Gwella'r ffordd o reoli salwch a chyflyrau hir dymor
- Hwyluso'r Meddygon Teulu i weithio'n effeithiol ar draws ystod eang o glefydau, gan sicrhau gofal integredig yn agos at gartref y claf. Darparu cyfleusterau modern i gynnal mwy o archwiliadau diagnostig yn lleol, fel nad oes raid i gleifion ymweld a'r ysbyty llym lawer gwaith
- Darparu ystafelloedd hyblyg y gellir eu defnyddio gan bartneriaid allweddol eraill, fel Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Byddai hyn yn sicrhau bod gwasanaethau cymuned yn cael eu cynllunio'n effeithiol ac yn dynodi opsiynau ar gyfer gwaith amlddisgyblaethol

Dechreuodd gwaith dymchwel a gwaith hwyluso'r safle ym mis Ebrill 2014 ac mae'r gwaith adeiladu dilynol wedi mynd rhagddo'n dda. Ers i'r ffrâm ddur gael ei chwblhau, mae'r grisiau wedi'u gosod ac mae slabiau'r ail lawr yn eu lle. Mae dros 70% o'r to wedi'i gwblhau bellach ac mae cladin allanol yr adeilad yn symud ymlaen yn dda. Ar hyn o bryd, disgwylir i'r cynllun gael ei gwblhau ym mis Tachwedd 2015.

Fel rhan o roi Cronfa Technoleg Iechyd ar waith, caiff technolegau fideo-gynadledda newydd eu cyflwyno ar y safle.

Ar wahân i hyn, mae Cronfa Apêl Ysbyty Coffa Tywyn wedi cefnogi'n hael offer Pelydr-x newydd i'r safle, ac mae'r cynllun hwn i ddechrau ar y safle ddiwedd mis Mawrth 2015.