

**Y Pwyllgor Deisebau
Petitions Committee**

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Mark Drakeford AM
Chair, Health and Social Care
Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd / Cardiff CF99 1NA

Our ref: P-04-318

12 January 2012

Seat Mark

Petition: Cross-border Maternity Services

The Petitions Committee considered the following petition at its meeting of 10 January:

'We, the undersigned, note the proposal to move the consultant-led maternity unit, neonatal intensive care unit and child inpatient unit from the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital (RSH) to the Princess Royal Hospital (PRH) at Telford.

We believe this would cause a great deal of hardship and stress for patients and their families travelling from Montgomeryshire. It would add an extra twenty minutes onto a journey which is already fifty minutes at best and ambulance response times will inevitably be significantly increased.

It is vital that these proposals are not considered in isolation to proposals in Wales and that the Welsh Government adopts a strategic approach to cross border health issues, to ensure that the needs of patients from Mid Wales are fully represented in any proposals at catchment hospitals.

We therefore call on the National Assembly to urge the Welsh Government to fully engage in the 'Keeping it in the County' consultation process, to ensure that patients from Mid Wales are not disadvantaged by any changes.'

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The Minister has informed the Committee that Powys Teaching Health Board is reviewing its maternity services and developing a local delivery plan in light of Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust's decision to move services from the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital to the Princess Royal Hospital at Telford.

The Committee agreed to write to ask whether the Health and Social Care Committee would consider keeping this issue under review.

Thank you for your consideration of this petition. I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William".

William Powell AM
Chair, Petitions Committee