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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Hywel Dda  
University Health Board

Ein cyf/Our ref: CEO.2147.1118  
Eich cyf/Your ref:  
Gofynnwch am/Please ask for: Corporate Information Officer  
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Dyddiad/Date: 6 December 2018

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Caerfyrddin, Sir Gaerfyrddin, SA31 3BB

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Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 3BB

Email to: David J Rowlands - [SeneddPetitions@Assembly.Wales](mailto:SeneddPetitions@Assembly.Wales)

Dear Mr Rowlands

**Re: Petition P-05-846 Save our Hospital at Prince Philip Hospital, Llanelli**

Thank you for your letter of 29 November 2018 regarding the petition submitted by SOSPPAN.

I note that you requested a response to the petition (along with additional comments received) and additionally an update on proposals relating to service changes at Prince Philip Hospital.

Regarding the receipt of the petition, the Health Board views it positively that a significant amount of interest was received through the formal consultation exercise (*Our Big NHS Change*) earlier this year, which has enabled rigorous consideration of the proposals for future health and care services for our local population.

The views of SOSPPAN outlined in the *'What is the best "Option" for us'* were received by us as part of the formal consultation process, and subsequent independent consultation analysis, and were taken into account by the Board when deciding the preferred service model. This led to the development of our health and care strategy: *A Healthier Mid and West Wales – Our Future Generations Living Well* which was recently approved by our Board on 29 November 2018. The strategy sets out our vision for services to be fit for current and future generations.

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Cadeirydd / Chair  
**Mrs Bernardine Rees OBE**

Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive  
**Mr Steve Moore**

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Hywel Dda yw enw gweithredol Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Hywel Dda  
Hywel Dda University Health Board is the operational name of Hywel Dda University Local Health Board

Mae Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Hywel Dda yn amgylchedd di-fwg Hywel Dda University Health Board operates a smoke free environment

The health and care strategy confirms that Prince Philip Hospital will provide a GP-led minor injuries unit, as well as acute adult medical care with diagnostic support. This will include consultant-led overnight inpatient beds for patients to be cared for locally. It will also act as a stabilisation and transfer hub for certain specialised conditions as part of a network with colleagues in a new urgent and planned care hospital, as well as other regional sites (e.g. Morriston Hospital) for more critical care.

It is also noted that Glangwili and Withybush Hospitals will both provide a GP-led minor-injuries unit with full diagnostic support. The hospitals will include therapy and nurse-led step up and step down care, midwife led units, along with chemotherapy and palliative care with the ambition to provide dialysis units and both sites. Additionally, we will develop more locally-based treatment and care including a range of outpatient clinics so that care can be provided closer to home.

When we consulted with the public regarding our proposals for change, we talked about Community Hubs (e.g. such as Llanelli, Ammanford & Cross Hands sites as noted by SOSPPAN) providing a range of support and services. However, feedback suggested this term was not easily understood and therefore we now use the term 'health and well-being centre' to describe these.

Rather than being prescriptive on the number, and what services should be located in each health and well-being centre, we have recognised that the needs of communities will be different from each other, and we are committed to working with local people to develop tailored solutions to what matters to them.

Therefore, we have committed to a process of continuous engagement moving forward. Specifically, we have committed to "work together every step of the way" with our staff, patients, carers, people who live and work in our communities and people or organisations delivering or interested in health, care and well-being.

As such, SOSPPAN's engagement would be welcomed moving forward in the further development of health and care provision for the local area, and across the Health Board.

The additional comments received within the '*Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 5.11.18*' document focuses in the main on potential transport issues that may become apparent when implementing any new service model. Transport was recognised as a key issue within the Consultation feedback and its importance has also been set out within *A Healthier Mid and West Wales – Our Future Generations Living Well*.

In response to this feedback, a transport and access programme of work will be put in place to ensure that the transport provision and infrastructure is fit for purpose for the new service model. This will include working with partners on infrastructure developments (road, rail etc.) along with public transport providers and the Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust (WAST) for emergency patient transport and non-emergency patient transport.

Regarding mental health services, our health and care strategy views mental health and care equally with physical health and care, ensuring that those with mental health problems receive equitable access to the most effective and safest care available.

We have already undertaken a considerable amount of work on some parts of this journey, such as the Transforming Mental Health programme that has started to implement a co-designed new model for mental health services following a period of public consultation in 2017.

We will continue to progress the alignment of existing Transforming Mental Health plans with the development of our plans for the community and hospital models, considering every opportunity to co-locate services and support where appropriate.

Along with the update provided, please find enclosed a copy of *A Healthier Mid and West Wales – Our Future Generations Living Well*, which provides further detail regarding future plans.

Please do not hesitate to contact me again should you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Moore". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Steve Moore**  
**Chief Executive**