



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Betsi Cadwaladr
University Health Board

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Mr Jack Sargeant MS
Chair - Petitions Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
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CF99 1SN

Ein cyf / Our ref: JW/TO/DL/CE22-638/3082

Eich cyf / Your ref:

☎: 01745 448788 ext 6364

Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Dawn Lees

E-bost / Email: Dawn.Lees@wales.nhs.uk

Dyddiad / Date: 25th April 2022

Sent via E-mail:

petitions@senedd.wales

Dear Jack

RE: Petition P-06-1235 Ensure appropriate provision of services and support for people with Acquired Brain Injury in Wales

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) are continuing to develop the case for a Level 2 Neuro Rehabilitation service in North Wales in line with the timeline previously reported to the committee in February 2022. Since our last update BCUHB have submitted a scoping document to Welsh Government (WG) giving an outline of the case for change and also other key information to identify potential for WG capital funding, or if not available, requesting discussions about possible avenues that BCUHB can explore to raise this.

Work has started on the development of the service specification, which once complete will include a draft service model, accommodation requirements, details of capacity and staffing requirements, and also the financial costs of delivering the service. We have recently worked with clinicians, health staff, and other stakeholders including HeadWay to develop a draft service model and are now planning to engage with key stakeholders to refine this. As previously stated, we are keen that any new service is co-produced with service users and carers as well as health professionals so if any of the petitioners would like to be involved please contact Megan.Vickery@wales.nhs.uk for further information.

This information together with feedback from the WG will be used to undertake an options appraisal and identify the preferred option. It is anticipated that this will be presented to the Executives circa summer 2022 for approval to work up the full business case for the preferred option which will be concluded by when it will return to our Executive team for potential approval in autumn 2022.

A proposal for the role of neuro-navigators is also under development in BCUHB. The neuro-navigators will fulfil a role akin to a complex clinical case coordinator, to support persons with acquired brain injuries who are admitted to the acute hospital system (major trauma centre, Walton Centre, local district general hospital). This qualified clinician role is primarily aimed at improving the experience of people with highly complex long term neurological disabilities, as they journey through the health and community care service



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system and to facilitate timely admission, transition, and discharge to and from specialised neurorehabilitation units.

The key aspects of the role are to provide proactive case management and direct support to the local acute and rehabilitation services, with expert clinical advice, assessment and education, and directing patient referrals to the most appropriate specialist neurorehabilitation service with the emphasis on enhancing flow and improving patient experience for patients and their families.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jo Whitehead".

Jo Whitehead, PSM
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive