



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Betsi Cadwaladr
University Health Board

Bloc 5, Llys Carlton, Parc Busnes Llanelwy,
Llanelwy, LL17 0JG

Block 5, Carlton Court, St Asaph Business
Park, St Asaph, LL17 0JG

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

Ein cyf / Our ref: CS/EG (CE24/0891)

☎: 01745 448788 ext 6382

Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Emma Hughes

E-bost / Email: emma.hughes19@wales.nhs.uk

Dyddiad / Date: 15th August 2024

Dear Jack,

RE: Petition P-06-1350 Re-open Dyfi Ward at Tywyn Hospital

The committee has asked for an update regarding the following;

1. Given the progress made with recruitment, members now seek confirmation of when we can expect to receive a date for the re-opening of Dyfi Ward.

We are pleased that progress has been made in terms of recruitment in a geographical area where it is generally difficult to attract health professionals. Two internationally educated nurses have been successfully recruited to posts at Tywyn Hospital and both have completed the required competencies to practice as registered nurses in the UK. A further two internationally educated nurses had been appointed and are currently working in a supernumerary capacity within Dolgellau Hospital pending confirmation that they have completed the necessary competencies to practice independently and gained Nursing and Midwifery Council registration. All appointed staff must be competent and able to practice independently in line with UK Government Regulations.

We are duty bound to have safe level of staffing to ensure patient safety, quality and standards of care, in line with the Nurse Staffing Levels (Wales) Act (Sept,2016.) Whilst we have made progress with recruitment, we continue to find that the current model within Tywyn Hospital and Dyfi inpatient ward is a real challenge to sustain with the required number of nursing staff with the right level of experience and qualifications. Most recently we have had the challenge of backfilling 12 months maternity leave absence at ward manager level and until we fill this cover and all appointed nurses achieve their competencies and registration, we unfortunately remain unable to provide an expected date for the re-opening of Dyfi inpatient ward.

We continue to be committed to working with the residents, local stakeholders and representatives of Tywyn to find ways to adapt our models of care and develop a sustainable service model for Tywyn and the surrounding area. Further to open meetings and workshops, where key themes were identified, the intention is now to do some further intensive work in small groups to agree actions to address areas such as recruitment and retention, provision of care closer to home, health and wellbeing promotion.

Cyfeiriad Gohebiaeth ar gyfer y Cadeirydd a'r Prif Weithredwr / Correspondence address for Chairman and Chief Executive:
Swyddfa'r Gweithredwyr / Executives' Office
Ysbyty Gwynedd, Penrhosgarnedd
Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2PW

Gwefan: www.pbc.cymru.nhs.uk / **Web:** www.bcu.wales.nhs.uk

Mae Swyddfa'r Prif Weithredwr yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a bydd yn sicrhau y darperir ymateb yn Gymraeg heb oedi.
The Chief Executive's Office welcomes correspondence through the medium of Welsh and will ensure that a response is provided in Welsh without incurring a delay



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In the meantime, the Health Board has increased work in the community, enabling patients to be cared for at home where possible. This has been very well received by the patient and families in receipt of the care and the local population now very much appreciate the range of services the hospital is able to provide. For the very small numbers of patients needing more intensive care, the additional beds at Dolgellau have been available and will continue to operate alongside other services established during this period including the Tuag Adref (Homeward Bound) service, treatment room, minor injury until and the wellbeing hub.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carol Shillabeer'.

Carol Shillabeer
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive