

The Chair and the Board Secretary:

Anuerin Bevan UHB
Cardiff & Vale UHB
Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Hywel Dda UHB
Powys THB
Swansea Bay UHB

Dear Colleague

Re: Adult Thoracic Surgery for South Wales: Update

I am writing to provide an update on developments at yesterday's WHSSC Joint Committee meeting.

You will be aware that we had an agenda item to consider adult thoracic surgery for south Wales and accordingly received a paper on this subject. We had anticipated that the same paper would be forwarded to you for consideration at your health board May 2019 Board meeting with an endorsement from the Joint Committee.

In respect of the recommendation that a decision regarding the workforce arrangements that have been developed to provide thoracic surgical cover from Morriston Hospital, Swansea, for the MTC in UHW, Cardiff be deferred to July 2019, members decided, instead, to request Dr Sian Lewis (and the WHSS Team) to bring a WHSSC commissioning proposal back to the Joint Committee by the end of June 2019 that would take into consideration a number of matters and some uncertainties raised in the paper and during the meeting.

In relation to the other recommendations set out in the paper, after due consideration, Members:

- **Noted and received assurance** that arrangements are in place to address the further issues raised by the affected health boards in November 2018;

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Chair/Cadeirydd: *Professor Vivienne Harpwood*
Managing Director of Specialised and Tertiary Services Commissioning/Rheolwr
Gyfarwyddwr Comisiynu Gwasanaethau Arbenigol a Thrydyddol: *Dr Sian Lewis*

- **Supported** the recommendations arising from the assessment of lessons learned from the engagement exercise and public consultation;
- **Noted** the development of the thoracic surgery commissioning plan; and
- **Noted** the implementation project led by SBUHB has commenced with project board and stakeholder meetings already held.

The final recommendation set out in the paper: "To support the recommendations going forward to the six affected health boards and the affected health boards being asked to confirm their unconditional approval for a single adult thoracic surgery centre for south Wales, and parts of mid Wales, based in Morriston Hospital, Swansea." was postponed.

Please circulate this letter to your directors for noting at your May 2019 Board meeting.

Yours sincerely



Professor Vivienne Harpwood
Chair

cc Andrew Goodall, Chief Executive, NHS Wales
Simon Dean, Deputy Chief Executive, NHS Wales

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