

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTHB_399_16

You asked:

When will Prince Charles Hospital in Merthyr Tydfil employ a CONSULTANT IN RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY.

Could you give me a straight forward honest answer please?

Our response:

There is a national shortage of Consultants in Restorative Dentistry and unfortunately Cwm Taf University Health Board has failed to recruit, despite several attempts. Despite this being a less than ideal situation, locum and interim arrangements have been in place in the intervening period so that patients can be assessed, treatment planned and where possible the treatment delivered. There are however some patients that have had to be referred to the University Dental Hospital in Cardiff for assessment and treatment.

Over the past 12 months the UHB has been reliant on support from Consultants from neighbouring health boards, to provide the service in Cwm Taf. However, we are aware of some local trainees who will be eligible to apply for the vacant post in the coming months. We are in regular contact with these individuals and they have been undertaking some sessions with us and we hope that they will want to come and work with us.

It is therefore our intention to re-advertise the post within the next 6 months with an aim of having a substantive consultant in post during 2017.