

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_247_20

You asked:

I am looking into the arrangements that Health Boards will be making to support staff with travel during the winter months.

Given the potential for resurgent COVID-19 waves, ongoing localised lockdowns as well as annual winter pressures, I am looking into arrangements that health boards will be making to support their staff in getting to and from work during 1 Dec 2020 - 31 Mar 2021.

Please can I have a response to the following question?

1. What plans do you have in place to support staff with travel to and from work between 1 December 2020 to 31 March 2021, in case public transport is disrupted due to severe weather conditions and/or COVID-19 lockdowns, locally or nationwide?

[Such as: booking hotel rooms; hiring private accommodation; paying for taxis; creating special rest rooms]

Example of data:

- Q1. What plans do you have in place to support staff with travel to and from work between 1 December 2020 to 31 March 2021, in case public transport is disrupted due to severe weather conditions and/or COVID-19 lockdowns, locally or nationwide?

A1. We have arrangements in place for booking hotel rooms within walking distance to staff's place of work.

Our response:

During periods of adverse weather the UHB has a comprehensive programme in place to ensure staff are able to get into work. This programme will continue through the period in question.

Where staff may be experiencing difficulty in accessing public transport due to COVID the UHB has and will provide transport for staff to be able to travel to work. This will be provided by arrangements with local external transport providers.

If available, on site accommodation is offered at our General Hospital sites (Royal Glamorgan Hospital, Prince Charles Hospital & Princess of Wales Hospital). We have built up a good working relationships with hotels and bed & breakfast within these areas however, we cannot guarantee they will be within walking distance as we are dependent on them being open during those times.

Where accommodation has been provided outside of walking distance and the member of staff does not have their own transport then the UHB has provided transport.