

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_472_22

You asked:

I would be grateful if you could answer the following questions:

1. What departments are currently located at Maesteg Community Hospital?
2. Does the hospital still have a functioning physiotherapy department? If not, when did it close and why did it close. Are there any plans to reinstate it?
3. How many outpatient clinics are taking place at the hospital at present?
4. The Diabetic clinics have still not returned, Can you say why this is the case and when is it planned to reinstate them as patients are having to travel to Bridgend at present – if they are seen at all. Telephone consultations seem to have replaced the face to face consultations that were held before Covid.
5. The Diabetic Retinopathy service says that it has not yet been advised that Maesteg Hospital is available for holding their sessions. Is this the case and if so, why are these tests no longer being carried out at the hospital and when is it planned to have them returned?
6. When is the consultation on the future of Maesteg Hospital due to commence and can you supply a list of engagement or consultation dates and events being planned.

Our response:

1. What departments are currently located at Maesteg Community Hospital?

The departments currently running from Maesteg Community Hospital are outlined below:

- a wide range of outpatient's services (Listed below) including administrative and clerical, typing and nursing outpatient support staff
- Facilities and Portering staff
- Community Mental Health Team (CMHT) and service
- Gastro Day Unit (Biologics infusion service) previous to COVID-19 pandemic this service was delivered from the POWH site, no current plans to return the service to POWH presently
- Paediatric Health Visiting Team
- Bron Y Garn General Practice Surgery
- District Nursing service
- Radiology service (Currently running half day Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday due to staffing pressures, staffing issues being reviewed currently.)
- COVID-19 Community Vaccination Services (CVC)

2. Does the hospital still have a functioning physiotherapy department? If not, when did it close and why did it close. Are there any plans to reinstate it?

The physiotherapy service that supported inpatients on Llynfi Ward ceased when Llynfi Ward closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic in November 2020, the ward was then transferred down to Ysbyty'r Seren.

As Llynfi Ward has not yet returned to Maesteg General Hospital (MGH) the Physiotherapy service continues to support its patients on Ward 21 within the Princess of Wales Hospital. There was at the time a limited outpatient Physiotherapy service but this has not returned, this was at the time in line with changes associated with the pandemic with more services moving to the acute Hospitals.

Gastro Day Unit (Biologics infusion service) is currently being run from the Physio Gym. The Gastro Day Unit provides an intravenous biologic medication to a large cohort of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) patients to avoid a flare up in their symptoms. Patient's medication is time sensitive and is administered at 4/6/8 weekly intervals. This service moved from the Princess of Wales Hospital site at the start of the Pandemic due to the vulnerability of the patients. This service is Tuesday – Friday.

Within the outpatient department there is a Paediatric Physiotherapy clinic (This paediatric physio clinic is currently not being held as there is a staffing vacancy but hoping to start back in near future) running as well as a Muscular Skeletal (MCAS) clinic run by Physiotherapy within the Outpatient department provided via Swansea Bay University Health Board (SBUHB).

3. How many outpatient clinics are taking place at the hospital at present?

There are a range of outpatient services running from the outpatient department, some have returned since the COVID-19 Pandemic and we are currently reviewing the outpatient services with a view to increasing outpatient services across the site. The range of outpatient services are listed below:

- Health Visiting Baby clinic
- Community Midwifery clinic
- Community Paediatric clinics
- Consultant Paediatric clinics
- Speech and Language Therapy services
- Wound Care clinic
- Gynaecology clinic (Consultant, Registrar, SHO and Nurse led)
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) screening clinic
- Neurology Clinic (Consultant and Nurse led)
- Ophthalmology services specifically Visual Fields and Glaucoma service
- General Surgery clinic
- Cardiology Clinic (Consultant and Pharmacy led)
- Specialist Nurse Heart Failure clinic
- Gastroenterology clinic (Consultant and Nurse led)
- Healthy Bladder and Bowel clinic
- Muscular Skeletal (MCAS) run by Physiotherapy (Currently provided by Swansea Bay UHB)
- Motor Neurone Disease (MND) clinic
- Paediatric Physiotherapy clinic
- Cardio Vascular Clinic (CVD) clinic
- Adult ADHD clinic
- Wellness Improvement Team (WISE) clinic
- Podiatry clinic

Lymphoedema clinic (New since COVID-19)

4. The Diabetic clinics have still not returned, Can you say why this is the case and when is it planned to reinstate them as patients are having to travel to Bridgend at present – if they are seen at all. Telephone consultations seem to have replaced the face to face consultations that were held before Covid.

Outpatients at MGH have offered the Diabetic service the opportunity to return to MGH outpatients department, however due to changes in timetables and service demands and staffing pressures, all services are currently being provided from the Princess of Wales Hospital. This will continue to be reviewed and where possible outpatient services will be recommenced in MGH.

Maesteg Hospitals Outpatient Department are currently only undertaking diabetic bloods and sending through to the Diabetic Consultants and they are making contact with patients as necessary from the diabetic centre in the Princess of Wales Hospital, Maesteg Outpatients team still undertake bloods for our own clinic patients but are no longer taking bloods for diabetic patients so presume this is now being done in PWH or GP surgery

5. The Diabetic Retinopathy service says that it has not yet been advised that Maesteg Hospital is available for holding their sessions. Is this the case and if so, why are these tests no longer being carried out at the hospital and when is it planned to have them returned?

Discussions were held last year, May to June 2021 around options to provide spaces elsewhere within the Health Board but these were not able to be taken up. The service previously used 2 rooms on a Friday afternoon at Maesteg Community Hospital.

We have made further contact early in December with the service to establish their needs and ability to return to MGH. We have initially offered the service an all-day session or 2 half day sessions as soon as we receive a reply or further information regarding their needs we will work with the service to try and establish their needs and bring the service back online as required. We are aware that the storage of essential kit is an issue as the equipment is quite bulky but we are open to reviewing their needs to offer alternatives to support the service returning.

6. When is the consultation on the future of Maesteg Hospital due to commence and can you supply a list of engagement or consultation dates and events being planned.

During October - November 2022, CTM UHB held a series of Maesteg Hospital briefings with local elected officials, stakeholders and staff groups. The briefings provided an opportunity to discuss our Health Board's collaborative approach to developing services at Maesteg Hospital and inviting feedback on a proposed community engagement plan, recognising Maesteg Hospital as a highly valued part of the health care system locally.

We want to hear people's experiences of using local services and their ideas about how we could help people to live healthier and happier lives in Maesteg. We recognise and understand the importance of Maesteg Hospital to the local community and would like to discuss with the local community opportunities to make this hospital an even more useful and accessible health and care facility for everyone - an exemplar health care facility fit for the 21st century.

We are inviting people and groups from Maesteg and the wider valleys communities to come together in early January 2023 to help shape the future of health and care in Maesteg. We have been working with local community groups to organise four community events across two dates in January 2023.

Event details

The local community has the option to attend one (or more) of these four planned sessions across two community venues:

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Community venue: Caerau Development Trust

Times: 3-5pm & 5.30-7.30pm

Address:

Caerau Community Centre
Woodlands Terrace Caerau, Maesteg, CF34 0SR

Thursday, January 12, 2023

Community venue: Maesteg RFC

Times: 3-5pm & 5.30-7.30pm

Address:

Llynfi Road, Maesteg CF34 9DS

We have consulted widely to determine the locations of these engagement sessions in order to maximise attendance and participation. Event details are being advertised on the CTM social media pages and [website](#). We are also working closely with Maesteg community groups to promote the events locally, both online and by providing printed community resources.