

Meeting with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (Monday 30th April 2018)

The Safeguarding Communities & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee meets regularly with representatives from BCUHB. The next meeting is scheduled **for Monday 30th April**.

In accordance with established arrangements, in addition to the agreed agenda items, the committee has the opportunity to submit questions in advance of the meeting. This is not to preclude questions being asked at the meeting but to give BCUHB the opportunity to be able to respond in full at the meeting. These questions should be of a strategic nature rather than individual / constituent enquiries. As these questions need to be submitted 4 weeks in advance of the meeting, the committee should agree the questions at this meeting (21st March). The questions that have been submitted for committee's consideration are listed below.

Agenda:

- (a) Recruitment and retention of BCUHB staff;
- (b) An update on the development and implementation of Community Resource Teams (including information / statistics on the effect on Emergency Department (ED) and GP Services;
- (c) Performance for ED for the 6 month period (including an update on the impact of HMP Berwyn on ED);
- (d) GP Recruitment and Practices at risk – an update on practices identified as being at risk and how these are being managed;
- (e) An update on Welsh Government Infrastructure Investment Plan.
- (f) BCUHB Mental Health Strategy;
- (g) Members' questions submitted in advance.

Suggestions for Questions

1. Please can you provide an update on BCUHB's 'special measures' status and progress?

Links with agenda item on 'Recruitment & Retention of BCUHB staff'

2. Staffing - What percentage of the overall nursing establishment in the Maelor Hospital is being filled with 'bank' or nursing agency staff? What is the impact of this on overall staffing costs and what plans are in place to address this?

3. GP Out of Hours Service - At the meeting in October, you provided the committee with statistics as to what extent the GP Out of Hours Service (hours/shifts) is staffed by the number of GPs required. Please could you provide an update on these figures?

Linking with the agenda item on Emergency Department Performance

4. How is BCUHB working with the Ambulance Trust to improve the situation on ambulance turnaround times at the Maelor, which is having a detrimental effect on

the ability of ambulances to respond to emergencies? Can the BCUHB also comment on the situation with the A&E corridor being used as a ward and the impact this is having on staff and patients?

Links with the agenda item on the Mental Health Strategy

5. (a) We understand the Health Board have been running social prescribing in the eastern part of Wales both in primary and secondary care. Could you brief members about the concept of social prescribing and the result of the evaluation of the pilot and what the plans are going forward?

(b) How many BCUHB Registered Mental Health Nurse posts are there in North Wales and how many are vacant?

(c) How many secure acute mental health beds are there across North Wales per LA area and what does your needs assessment suggest is the demand for such beds again per LA area?

(d) Can you list average per month bed capacity at our current secure units particularly Bryn y Neuadd and New Hall?

(e) What Community Mental Health Services does the Health Board provide out of hours and on weekends? Do people in crisis receive a service?

6. Can BCUHB please comment on reports that there are plans for Dialysis Services at the Maelor to be provided by the private sector? What is the rationale for these plans and how will they affect the service, current staff and patients?

7. Can BCUHB clarify whether the glucose monitoring system 'Freestyle Libre' will be available for BCUHB patients?

8. We would like to ask about the inconsistencies within Wales as to the availability of Multiparametric MRI scans for the purposes of Prostate Cancer diagnosis. Given that Wrexham Maelor took part in the UK trials and all North Wales Urologists are supporting their use, can the Health Board explain its current position of denying North Wales patients access to this service?

9. What safeguards and communication channels are in place to guard against unsafe hospital discharges, i.e. elderly patients, without arrangements for a care plan, late in the evening?