



Ein cyf/Our ref ATISN 11095

6 March 2017

Dear ,

ATISN 11095 – Vascular Services

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, received on 6 February. You asked for all written communication between Geoff Ryall-Harvey, Chief Officer of the North Wales Community Health Council, and Welsh Government Ministers from 1 October 2016 to 6 February 2017, relating to Vascular Services in the Betsi Cadwaladr Local Health Board area.

The Welsh Government holds information of this description and it is enclosed at Annex A of this letter.

The 'full response to the HCINWIC consultation' that is mentioned in the correspondence is regarded as exempt from release under s21 of the Freedom of Information Act - Information accessible to the applicant by other means.

The North Wales Community Health Council Response to Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board's consultation document 2012 can be found in the attached link:
<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/900/FINAL%20CHC%20response%2028%20Nov%202012.pdf>

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of the response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit
Welsh Government
Cathays Park



Grŵp Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
• Health and Social Services Group
Parc Cathays • Cathays Park
Caerdydd • Cardiff • CF10 3NQ

E-bost • E-mail:
health.enquiries@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Ffôn • Tel: 029 2037 0011
Ffacs • Fax: 029 2082 3403

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Or email: FreedomOfInformationOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,

Information to be released

1. **From:** Geoff Ryall-Harvey
Sent: 05 October 2016 09:55
To: Carwyn Jones
Subject: Vascular Services in North Wales

Dear First Minister

With regard to the discussion on vascular services in North Wales yesterday, the BBC reporting seems to suggest that you said the changes are supported by the CHC.



I am not sure where they got this idea from but I think it would be helpful if I clarify what the CHC response to the Vascular Services element of Healthcare in North Wales is Changing” actually was;

“D7.4 Conclusion

The CHC acknowledges the weight of evidence in favour of centralising complex arterial surgery at one of the three district general hospitals, although it has concerns, based on the information it has at the moment, about the effect of centralising all but planned vascular surgery services as well. We cannot be sure that the proposals will serve the wider interests of people who use the service (ie those other than the 300 people who it is estimated will need complex arterial surgery each year) without assurances from the health board about

- *The likely impact of its proposals on other services provided from the three district general hospitals and the steps it plans to minimise them*
- *A workforce plan which shows how it will recruit and retain staff for the service at all three district general hospitals*
- *The number of intensive care and high dependency beds available at the designated centre.”*

I also attach the full response to the HCINWIC consultation, I am sure that you will find the contemporaneous summary of public views on this issue to be useful.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to check the CHC view on any aspect of Healthcare provision in North Wales.

Regards

GEOFF RYALL-HARVEY

PRIF SWYDDOG / CHIEF OFFICER

Cyngor Iechyd Cymuned Gogledd Cymru / North Wales Community Health Council.

Unedau 1B & 1D Parc Busnes Wilkinson, Ffordd De Clywedog, Ystad Ddiwydiannol Wreccsam, Wreccsam. LL13 9AE / Units 1B & 1D Wilkinson Business Park, Clywedog Road South, Wrexham Industrial Estate, Wrexham. LL13 9AE.
