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Neuadd v Sir

My ref: PO/RJ

1 March 2021

Mr Len Richards
Chief Executive
Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
Woodland House
Maes-Y-Coed Road
Cardiff
CF14 4HH

Dear Len,

The Leader of the Council and I have welcomed the opportunity to engage in discussions regarding the Future Hospitals programme business case the Health Board has been developing over the last few months. As a Council we share the vision you have for improving the health of the population and continuing the redesign of clinical services to support this, building on your ten-year strategy. The Council, with Public Service Board partners, has prioritised tackling health inequalities in our Wellbeing Plan. We know that COVID19 is likely to have contributed to a widening of these inequalities so economic regeneration is a key feature of our post-COVID19 recovery planning.

We recognise the drivers for change that are informing your Programme Business Case: the impact of demographic changes; the need to respond to the climate emergency; our shared ambitions regarding zero carbon, highlighted recently in the Council's One Planet Strategy; and the need for sustainable clinical service models that reflect rapidly advancing technology and treatments, and have at their heart the need to improve outcomes for citizens by reducing premature disease and death. As partners in the delivery of the health and care system, we have built firm foundations through the Regional Partnership Board for the continued transformation of services so that people can remain living safe and well in their own homes for as long as.

As we emerge from the pandemic, the need for economic regeneration will be even greater. Over the last year we have rapidly changed the way we deliver services - as you have in the health board, and the Council seeks to build on these developments to generate a 'green' recovery. We have made significant steps forward in agile working practices, and the provision of online services to our citizens and communities and we believe we have an opportunity to work together as we develop new and more sustainable ways of delivering our services. This very much aligns with the service models you have outlined in the Future Hospitals Programme Business Case.

GWEITHIO I

Mae'r Cyngor y Byddwn yn cyfathrebu â chi yn ôl eich dewis, dim ond i chi roi gwybod i ni pa un sydd well gennych. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.



The Council welcomes correspondence in Welsh, English or bilingually. We will ensure that we communicate with you in the language of your choice, as long as you let us know which you prefer. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay.



We recognise the pressing need for the significant upgrade in the hospital infrastructure with many of the facilities no longer fit for current and future healthcare requirements. We have faced similar challenges, for example in our schools, and we would be happy to share our learning from our 21st Centuries Schools programme. We welcome early engagement in the discussions regarding the need to replace or significantly redevelop the University Hospital of Wales. We cannot underestimate its importance in the City as a major employer, and as a key asset in, and contributor to, the growing life science sector in Cardiff and the City Region. It represents a major opportunity to secure a step change in the competitiveness of this crucial sector, which would serve to build on existing strengths in areas like med-tech, including medical devices and diagnostics, and provide a vital long-term contribution to the performance of the Welsh economy.

We share your ambition for using this programme as an opportunity to provide the right infrastructure and opportunities for the hospital to really become an anchor institution, with more clinical research and clinical innovation generated, contributing positively to the health and life science sector growth in the region. Investment in the construction of a new major teaching specialist hospital with an academic health science quarter in the City will be one of the single biggest contributors to economic regeneration within the region and a much-needed stimulus post-COVID. We see the opportunity to plan such a development in a way that locks in sustainable transport and environmental sustainability to align with our plans for continued development and improvement of the City, very much in line with the thinking you have outlined in the Programme Business Case.

We are keen to remain key partners, with Cardiff University, as you progress this programme, recognising that its benefits for the City will be significant.

Regards

Paul Orders
Chief Executive