



Our Ref: WQ83861-3

Peter Fox MS
Member of the Senedd for Monmouth

Peter.Fox@senedd.wales

25 November 2021

Dear Peter,

Thank you for your recent Written Questions 83861-3 asking me what assessment I have made of the capacity of A&E services at the Grange University Hospital, what consideration I have given to reinstating A&E services in hospitals throughout South East Wales (such as those at Nevill Hall Hospital in Abergavenny) to relieve pressure on services at the Grange University Hospital and asking me what assessment I have made of the impact on capacity and service provision at Nevill Hall Hospital, following the recent restructuring of services at the hospital.

It is the operational responsibility of Aneurin Bevan University Health Board to plan how services will be delivered to meet the needs of its community. The requirement to meet infection control requirements has led to many health boards making physical changes to hospital infrastructure to keep patients safe and limit the spread of Covid-19.

The Grange University Hospital provides specialist services for the most seriously ill people and those with significant injuries within the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board area. For people with less serious conditions, the Nevill Hall and Royal Gwent hospitals continue to deliver a range of urgent care services including co-located Urgent Primary Care Centres to support people with urgent care complaints, and Minor Injuries Units (MIUs), which are open 24 hours a day seven days a week - as well as medical assessment units, diagnostics and fracture clinics. The majority of these services are also available at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr.

The Aneurin Bevan University Health Board has developed an urgent and emergency care plan intended to support improvement in the quality and timeliness of delivery of these services. My officials hold bimonthly Integrated Quality, Planning and Delivery meetings with all health boards, as well as regular and ad hoc meetings to discuss and seek assurance on a range of immediate and strategic issues, including progress against their plans, clinical models, performance and patient safety.

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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.

Additional capital funding has been allocated in 2021-22 to Aneurin Bevan University Health Board to extend the physical foot-print of the Grange University Hospital Emergency Department and enable delivery of same day emergency care services. This is with a focus on supporting people to be assessed, diagnosed, to start treatment and return home on the same day of their unplanned presentation at hospital. This will help to improve patient experience and reduce unnecessary admissions to hospital.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. E. Morgan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eluned Morgan AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services