

Eluned Morgan AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Our ref: WQ88355

Janet Finch-Saunders MS
Senedd Member for Aberconwy

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19 June 2023

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your recent written question regarding suspended elective orthopaedic surgery at the Enlli Ward, Ysbyty Gwynedd between 16 December 2022 & 24 April 2023.

We were notified of the change of use of Enlli Ward during winter pressures, under the winter planning communication updates. Management of the hospital estate including wards is the responsibility and governance of the Health Boards to maintain safe services. Mitigation plans however were put in place to ensure orthopaedic treatments for patient on the Ysbyty Gwynedd site did continue during this change in purpose of Enlli Ward.

The mitigation plan ensured that patients waiting at Bangor have continued to receive treatment during this period. Day case orthopaedics continued at Ysbyty Gwynedd using the Day of Surgery Arrivals ward (Tudno.). Elective inpatient treatments were provided through additional sessions at Abergele hospital using Ysbyty Gwynedd orthopaedic surgeons. Forty-five additional sessions from January till the end of March have been used for inpatient treatments for people on Ysbyty Gwynedd waiting lists.

Enlli Ward has now re-opened, and my officials have received assurance that the team are committed to operating on the most clinically urgent patients, and then treating all other patients in chronological order to ensure equitable access, including those who are considered unsuitable for the Abergele site.

Yours sincerely,

Eluned Morgan AS/MS
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Minister for Health and Social Services

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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.