



Our ref: WQ83730

Janet Finch-Saunders MS
Senedd Member for Aberconwy

Janet.Finch-Saunders@senedd.wales

10 November 2021

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your recent Written Question asking me to make a statement on the recent finding by the chief coroner for North Wales East and Central that changes to prevent deaths at Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board have not been made.

In recent discussions with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, my officials and colleagues from the quality branch of the NHS Wales Delivery Unit, have received assurances regarding additional measures in place to put learning from serious incidents, particularly around harm, into everyday practice. The health board has developed a new standard operating procedure to speed up the diagnosis and communicating of life-threatening blood results, which has now received formal approval and is expected to be implemented by Christmas.

The health board has demonstrated in a recent report that any new issues are discussed daily, and escalated to the Executive Team for action, as required. As part of the health board's 'Make it Safe' approach, any incidents involving serious harm or death have a rapid 24 hour audit review to ensure measures are put in place to prevent further issues. My officials continue to work with, and challenge the health board to ensure necessary procedures are in place to prevent the risk of harm to patients.

National support and funding has been made available to support delivery of the six goals for urgent and emergency care in Wales. Betsi Cadwaladr UHB has received an allocation of £2.824m to support implementation of local urgent primary care centre models, secondary points of access and same day emergency care. North Wales Regional

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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.

Partnership Board (RPB) has also received funding of £2.213M to assist in its delivery against the Health and Social Care Winter Plan for 2021-22 at a regional level.

I hope you find this response helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. E. Morgan'.

Eluned Morgan AS/MS

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