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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Caerdydd a'r Fro
Cardiff and Vale
University Health Board

Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru
University Hospital of Wales
UHB Headquarters
Heath Park
Cardiff, CF14 4XW

Parc Y Mynydd Bychan
Caerdydd, CF14 4XW

Eich cyf/Your ref: P-04-450
Ein cyf/Our ref: AC-jb-11-3068
Welsh Health Telephone Network:
Direct Line/Llinell uniongychol: 02920 745681

Adam Cairns
Chief Executive

18 November 2013

William Powell AM
Chair
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Dear Mr Powell

P-04-450 Barry and Vale needs a fully functioning hospital

Thank you for your letter dated 23 October 2013 which provided comments from petitioners about the Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) at Barry Hospital. Below I have responded to each of the suggestions in turn.

Accident and Emergency (A&E) Services at Barry Hospital

As I am sure you will be aware, Cardiff and Vale UHB is working with the four other health boards in south Wales, and the Welsh Ambulance Services Trust, as part of the South Wales Programme to develop plans to ensure the sustainability of a number of key services – including emergency medicine. Following extensive work led by clinicians and an engagement exercise involving stakeholders and partners, four options were identified. These options have recently been the subject of an extensive consultation process, the information from which is currently being considered. In each of the options, the need to concentrate specialist services on fewer sites was proposed, recognising the need to improve the quality of care and patient outcomes, and provide the best possible training experience for doctors of the future. University Hospital of Wales was regarded as one of the 'fixed points' in each of the options considered, ie it would continue to be a specialist centre for emergency medicine services. Barry Hospital does not meet the criteria for providing a specialist centre for emergency medicine. Further details of the South Wales Programme can be found at www.wales.nhs.uk/swp.

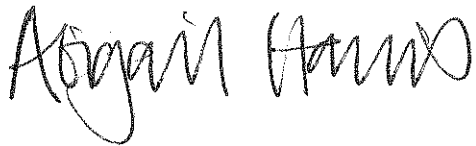
Extended MIU opening times

Barry Hospital continues to provide an excellent nurse-led minor injury services for the Vale of Glamorgan community. The Health Board has previously reviewed the activity at Barry MIU and has matched the resources to best meet the demand pattern, taking into consideration the resource requirements of all of the emergency care services provided at each of the hospitals. The majority of patients attend the MIU before 14.30, and the unit closes at 4pm, with the last patients being booked in a 3.30 to allow for treatment time.

We are not therefore planning to change the opening times in the near future but as part of our planning for the future, and in response to the South Wales Programme consultation we will need to consider how best to delivery emergency care to the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan population to ensure we continue to provide appropriate, safe and timely care.

I hope this clarifies the Health Board's position at this time.

Yours sincerely



Abigail Harris
Director of Planning, on behalf of

Adam Cairns
Chief Executive