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Bwrdd Iechyd
Cwm Taf
Health Board

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31 July 2013

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Chair & Chief Executive

100.

Mr William Powell AC/AM
Cadeirydd / Chair
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Dear Mr Powell,

Re: Robotic Assisted Laparoscopic Prostatectomy

Thank you for your letter dated 23rd July, asking whether Cwm Taf ULHB currently fund robotic assisted laparoscopic prostatectomy and whether we have plans to introduce the technology to be able to undertake surgery using this methodology.

Cwm Taf ULHB do not undertake prostatectomy's in any of our hospitals but we do commission and fund this service to be provided from Cardiff and Vale ULHB for Cwm Taf residents. Currently Cardiff and Vale only undertake open radical prostatectomy and at the current time, there is no technology available in Wales to undertake prostatectomy using robotic assisted technology. Consequently, robotic assisted laparoscopic prostatectomy is not routinely available in Wales and therefore we would only fund clinically exceptional cases under the ULHBs Individual Patient Funding Policy.

Cardiff and Vale ULHB have, however, recently identified the requirement to introduce robotic assisted technology for prostatectomy and has submitted a funding bid to the Welsh Governments Health Technology Fund and are currently waiting to hear whether this bid has been successful. If it is, then it is planned to introduce robotic assisted laparoscopic prostatectomy for our residents once the robot is in place and training has been completed for the surgeons.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate in contacting me again.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Allison Williams
Chief Executive/Prif Weithredydd
Cwm Taf Health Board/ Bwrdd Iechyd Cwm Taf

Return Address:

Ynysmeurig House, Navigation Park, Abercynon, CF45 4SN

Chair/Cadeirydd: Dr C D V Jones, CBE

Chief Executive/Prif Weithredydd: Mrs Allison Williams