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20th June 2012

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Chair & Chief Executive

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

Dear Mr. Powell

Re: Renal Dialysis Unit – Prince Charles Hospital

Thank you for your letter dated the 29th May 2012, regarding the Petitions Committee visit to the Renal Unit at Prince Charles Hospital on the 19th January 2012.

I can confirm that a meeting has recently been held between Dr. Mat Davies (WHSSC) and Mr. Rob Kendrick (patient unit representative) where they discussed the following:-

- The process for replacing the unit, involving both NHS and independent sector options – a decision is expected by the end of August 2012.
- The concerns around the current facility and ongoing problems with the environment and specifically the water system in the unit.
- The contingency plan for the transfer of patients elsewhere should the risk become unmanageable or the unit experiences a failure.

Mr David Heyburn, the Renal Network Manager of WHSSC has also had a conversation with Mr. Kendrick who has expressed his relief that contingency planning is underway and that the patients understood the basis of this. Mr. Heyburn has also informed me that he has met with colleagues from the Welsh Government to discuss the scheme and a briefing is with the Minister at the moment. Once this has been agreed, the network will draft a formal communication for the patients explaining both the process for the replacement and the contingency arrangements. This will then be shared with the relevant partners for their input and agreement prior to distributing to the patient group.

I hope that this update is helpful for you.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Allison Williams
Chief Executive/Prif Weithredydd

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Chair/Cadeirydd: Dr C D V Jones, CBE

Chief Executive/Prif Weithredydd: Mrs Allison Williams