



Eich cyf/Your ref ER
Ein cyf/Our ref EM/05717/24

Beca Roberts
Chair
Cyngor Gwynedd

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17 June 2024

Dear Beca Roberts

Thank you for your letter of 21 May regarding the decision of the NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee to combine services currently provided from air bases in Welshpool and Caernarfon by the Welsh Emergency Medical Collection and Transfer Service (EMRTS), in order to be based at a new base in North Wales.

I recognise how strong feelings are among communities in Mid and North Wales about this issue. The decision to do this is the responsibility of the NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee, and it is important that the decision remains the responsibility of that Joint Committee, as it would not be appropriate for the Welsh Government to make this type of operational decision.

The NHS Joint Commissioning Committee and the Welsh Air Ambulance Charity aim to ensure that more people in Powys and North Wales have access to the specialist critical care response provided by EMRTS, when necessary. I have been assured that this decision will also enable EMRTS to expand nighttime service provision for people in North and Mid Wales, leading to better outcomes for people with life-threatening conditions. That builds on previous arrangements where a service from Cardiff only was provided at night.

I can assure you that the experts involved in the design and delivery of these services – the Clinical Director of EMRTS, the Welsh Air Ambulance Charity, and the service

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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.

commissioners – are in agreement that combining services in this way is the right decision for the people of Wales.

Yours sincerely,



Eluned Morgan AS/MS

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

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