

Cyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol Grŵp Iechyd, Gofal Cymdeithasol a'r
Blynyddoedd Cynnar / Prif Weithredwr GIG Cymru

Director General Health, Social Care & Early Years Group /
NHS Wales Chief Executive



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

[REDACTED]

Chair of Independent Review into Maternity and Neonatal
Services at Swansea Bay University Health Board.

Our Ref: [REDACTED]

12 June 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

Independent review of maternity and neonatal services at Swansea Bay University Health Board

The independent review of maternity and neonatal services at Swansea Bay University Health Board (SBUHB) is an important review which is likely to have learning points and recommendations for all maternity and neonatal services across Wales. I acknowledge that your decision to take time to agree the terms of reference for the review through the engagement of families, staff and stakeholder was appropriate. As is the need to ensure that these terms of reference remain flexible and can be amended in light of new information. This will ensure that the review continues to serve its intended purpose. However, I also recognise the need for the review to begin with urgency.

I have written on a number of occasions to the Health Board to set out both the Cabinet Secretary's and my expectations for ongoing active involvement and engagement of current and previous patients/families, public and staff throughout the review. Understanding the real experiences of service users will ensure that the review is rounded, well-balanced and patient outcome focussed.

In my correspondence, I also suggested that you and your review team meet with the maternity and neonatal policy team in the Welsh Government to discuss the Welsh policy context and the expectations that there is patient and stakeholder engagement at its core. It is important to reiterate that this interaction with policy colleagues does not, and must not, influence the independent nature of your review. Should you find it useful, and wish to discuss the Welsh policy context, [REDACTED]

Through your review, if there are findings and/or recommendations that relate to policy or national practice improvement, I would be grateful if you could keep us updated through the performance team in the Welsh Government: [REDACTED]

I am copying this letter to [REDACTED], Chair of SBUHB for information.

Your sincerely

[REDACTED]

cc: [REDACTED] Chair SBUHB.