

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB)
Minutes of the Health Board meeting held in public
on 11 April 2024 Via Zoom

| Board Members Present | |
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| Name | Title |
| Dyfed Edwards | BCUHB Chair |
| Karen Balmer | Independent Member |
| Jason Brannan | Deputy Director of People |
| Russell Caldicott | Interim Executive Director of Finance |
| Chris Field | Independent Member |
| Urtha Felda | Independent Member |
| Dyfed Jones | Independent Member |
| Prof Mike Larvin | Independent Member |
| Dr Nick Lyons | Executive Medical Director/Deputy Chief Executive |
| Dr Jane Moore | Acting Executive Director of Public Health |
| Mike Parry | Associate Member – Chair Stakeholder Reference Group |
| Fôn Roberts | Associate Member – representing Directors of Social Services |
| Carol Shillabeer | Chief Executive |
| Helen Stevens-Jones | Director of Partnerships, Engagement & Communications |
| Dr Caroline Turner | Independent Member |
| Gareth Williams | BCUHB Vice Chair |
| Pam Wenger | Director of Governance |
| Angela Wood | Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery |
| In Attendance | |
| Georgina Roberts | Associate Workforce Director |
| Philippa Peake-Jones | Head of Corporate Affairs |
| Organisations / Individuals observing the meeting | |
| Geoff Ryall Harvey | Llais - North Wales |

| Agenda Item | Action |
|---|--------|
| OPENING BUSINESS | |
| HB24/74 Welcome, introductions and apologies for absence | |
| The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted from Chris Stockport, Clare Budden, Rhian Watcyn Jones, Billy Nichols, Gareth Evans and Dylan Roberts. | |
| HB24/75 Declarations of Interest on current agenda | |
| There were no declarations of interest made in respect of items on the agenda. | |



HB24/76 Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS) Review

HB24/76.1 The Chair introduced the one agenda item noting that the Board would discuss the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS) review that had been led by the Chief Ambulance Commissioner on behalf of the NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee (JCC) Director of Commissioning, Ambulance and 111.

HB24/76.2 The Chief Executive gave a presentation on the background to the review, the purpose of the review, the engagement scope and purpose and the engagement process and the responses. The engagement conclusion was highlighted and the next steps identified.

HB24/76.3 The Chair invited Geoff Ryall Harvey from Llais to update attendees with regards to engagement. Mr Harvey advised that the role of Llais, in service change, was to ensure that the voice of communities was heard by decision makers and that Llais and Community Health Councils, before the formation of Llais, had been involved in the discussions with EMRTS and the Air Ambulance Charity since August 2022. It was noted that Llais had not approved the proposals shared at the meeting in August 2022 and advised that the changes suggested should follow NHS guidance for engagement and had offered to support this, despite this offer being accepted this was not followed up and CHC were not involved in the engagement.

HB24/76.4 Mr Harvey advised that Llais had attended many of the engagement events that had taken place and that those events had been more information giving exercises. It was noted that feedback had been shared with EMERTS and a letter, included in the agenda bundle, had been sent to the Chief Ambulance Services Commissioner relating to the feelings of rural communities on the proposed changes, noting that a lot of the charity's money was received from the rural communities. The Board were advised that Llais felt that more work was needed and no decision, including in principle, should be taken until the work of the task and finish group concludes in September 2024 and that the service changes were not likely to change until 2026.

HB24/76.5 The Board held a full and informative discussion on engagement, lack of detail around some of the numbers quoted, night flying, understanding around land vehicles and their impact and the concerns of rural communities. Some Independent Members felt that if a decision had to be made at the meeting, then based on the numbers presented, the result was better for the population of North Wales as a whole. Overall, it was agreed that due to the lack of detail presented in recommendation four an agreement could not be reached.

It was resolved that the Board:

- **noted** concerns around process

- **discussed** the lack of detail in recommendation 4, as currently presented, as it did not set out how the unmet needs for the population of North Wales would be addressed and suggested that further work was required to explore the different options alongside recommendation 4 to maximise the unmet needs and maintain confidence in the service
- **noted** that any implementation would take effect from 2026 and recognised that there was a case for change
- **agreed** that they would support the work of the task and finish group which is due to conclude in September 2024
- **noted** that any future recommendations need would need to include evidence to look at the best possible option

The meeting ended at 14:30