



**PWYLLGOR IECHYD A DIOGELWCH
HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

DYDDIAD Y CYFARFOD: DATE OF MEETING:	12 November 2024
TEITL YR ADRODDIAD: TITLE OF REPORT:	Prince Philip Hospital – Temporary Traffic Control Issues
CYFARWYDDWR ARWEINIOL: LEAD DIRECTOR:	Andrew Carruthers, Chief Operating Officer
SWYDDOG ADRODD: REPORTING OFFICER:	Stuart Bancroft, Assistant General Manager

Pwrpas yr Adroddiad (dewiswch fel yn addas)

Purpose of the Report (select as appropriate)

Er Sicrwydd/For Assurance

ADRODDIAD SCAA

SBAR REPORT

Sefyllfa / Situation

There is a major building project underway in Bryngwyn School opposite Prince Philip Hospital (PPH). The roundabout has been removed and temporary three-way traffic lights have been put in place at the only entrance/exit to the PPH site.

Access to the site for emergency services as well as staff / patients / visitors has been impacted by this operation and we have been informed that temporary traffic lights will be in place until 2026. The main contractors for the project are Lloyd and Gravell.

The report is being provided to the Committee for assurance.

Cefndir / Background

On 24 September 2024, a representative from Lloyd and Gravell contacted the PPH management team to inform that temporary traffic lights were being installed at the main entrance of PPH and they would be in place for approximately 18 months. No previous correspondence regarding this work or consultation on the planning application was received by the Health Board (HB), and hence there was no opportunity for the management team to express concerns over the application and suggest alternative solutions.

The PPH management wrote to Lloyd and Gravell expressing concern that the traffic lights have the potential to cause traffic congestion in and out of the hospital and is likely to cause operational issues, particularly at peak times - 0730 -1000 and 1600-1830.

It also highlighted the risk of vehicles getting stuck at the junction – this could block either of the dual carriageways or indeed the main road. Both of these issues could affect ability for ambulances to bring patients in / take out and also staff to get in /out.

Traffic lights were installed on 30 September 2024, and caused severe operational issues, with staff waiting up to an hour to exit the site.

Also due to the configuration changes, on 9 October 2024, a bus got stuck while entering the main hospital entrance, ending up being stuck on the central reservation blocking both the entry and exit carriageways for 45 minutes.

In discussions with Lloyd and Gravell, they have listened to the concerns and have manned the traffic lights and reset the sequence timings, to the extent that there is currently increased flow at peak times for staff in particular entering and leaving the site.

Lloyd and Gravell have met with the Estates Department and the following was discussed:

- Lloyd and Gravell submitted planning to Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC) in May 2024 for consideration
- Full planning was granted on 24 August 2024
- It is the responsibility of the Local Authority's Highways Department to determine what traffic management is required to form part of the planning process
- Highways have advised the Local Authority (LA) to approve planning with the current traffic management in place.
- Lloyd and Gravell questioned whether there was a need for traffic management for the two-year project duration, or whether it was needed only for the path works, which is a two-week period.
- Highways have insisted that the traffic management remains for the two-year period.
- Lloyd and Gravell are further liaising with Highways to see if they will consider opening back up after the path works however no response in terms of the Highways decision has been received to date.
- The contractors had originally planned for 'traffic personnel' management between 9am and 3pm but this has been extended from 7.30am until 5pm.
- Lloyd and Gravell were due to speak to Highways to see if there could be any consideration to incorporate an emergency services entrance for ambulances only at the front of the hospital. Still awaiting a response from this.
- Estates Team would be informing the LA of the disappointment of lack of correspondence, pre and post project start.

There has been correspondence between the HB and CCC regarding the issues:

- The Corporate Correspondence Team emailed CCC on 8 October 2024, to enquire what communication (if any) had taken place with the HB in advance of the commencement of the works. This was responded to the same day – it advised that Lloyd and Gravell had liaised directly with PPH to inform them of the works.
- On 11 October 2024, an email was sent on behalf of Andrew Carruthers to the Director of Place Infrastructure and Economic Development at CCC to bring the HB's concerns to the attention of the LA in relation to severe operational difficulties caused by the road works and traffic lights. This also highlighted that the HB had no record of being informed of the planning permission sought and had no opportunity to comment in advance of the commencement of the works. The email further sought confirmation on whether a Risk Assessment had been undertaken and asked that the temporary entrance to the Bryngwyn site be moved away from the roundabout and for the removal of the traffic lights. It additionally enquired about a temporary second exit to the PPH site being facilitated.
- The Director of Place Infrastructure and Economic Development at CCC responded the same day to advise that it would be unsafe, from a traffic and pedestrian perspective, to remove the traffic lights, given the state of the works. However, he advised that he had asked for the lights to be controlled manually over the forthcoming weekend, with the position being reviewed the following week.

- A further email was received from the Director of Place Infrastructure and Economic Development at CCC on 14 October 2024. This advised that the immediate works on the road were scheduled to be completed by 16 October 2024 at the latest, which should significantly improve traffic flow in the affected areas. Also, it advised that the traffic management company was manually overriding the traffic lights during hospital shift changes and school pick up times, to ease congestion. Additionally, it indicated that arrangements for the remainder of the construction phase would be reviewed. The email also asked that the HB advise if there were any issues still being experienced.
- A response was sent on behalf of Andrew Carruthers on 21 October 2024, confirming that Lloyd and Gravell had not directly liaised with the HB until 24 September 2024 (two weeks prior to the work commencing). The email highlighted the times of concern, being peak times for the arrival and departure of staff (08:00-10:00, and 15:00-18:00). It also queried whether traffic controls were necessary following completion of the scheduled works and asked that the traffic lights be removed as soon as possible.
- No response has been received from CCC to the HB's email of 21 October 2024.

Asesiad / Assessment

The concern for the HB is primarily focused on the risk of being unable to operate or delaying our emergency services, in particular ambulances, arriving and leaving.

Secondly, the ability to allow staff, patients, and visitors to arrive and leave in a timely manner and this is of particular significance at peak times.

Both of these would be of particular concern if the lights failed, or the only entrance/exit became blocked for a considerable time.

The HB had no ability to comment on the proposals prior to work commencing – movement of the temporary entrance to Bryngwyn School lower down the road would not have impacted the operation of the entrance / exit.

Also, we question the need for traffic lights going forward – the mini roundabout has been removed but could be re-instated instead of the traffic lights.

There is also a single point of failure, which is the only entrance to the PPH site – we are raising a Risk that identifies this, and we should consider an emergency access route in such an eventuality.

Argymhelliad / Recommendation

The Committee is asked to RECEIVE ASSURANCE from the current remedial actions related to the Prince Philip Hospital – Temporary Traffic Control Issues.

Amcanion: (rhaid cwblhau)

Objectives: (must be completed)

Committee ToR Reference:
Cyfeirnod Cylch Gorchwyl y Pwyllgor:

2.1 Provide assurance around HDdUHB's arrangements for ensuring the health, safety, welfare and security of all employees and of those who may be affected by work-related activities, such as patients, members of the public, volunteers contractors etc.

Cyfeirnod Cofrestr Risg Datix a Sgôr Cyfredol: Datix Risk Register Reference and Score:	New Risk to be added to DATIX
Galluogwyr Ansawdd: Enablers of Quality: Quality and Engagement Act (sharepoint.com)	Not Applicable
Parthau Ansawdd: Domains of Quality Quality and Engagement Act (sharepoint.com)	2.1 Managing Risk and Promoting Health and Safety
Amcanion Strategol y BIP: UHB Strategic Objectives:	5. Safe sustainable, accessible and kind care
Amcanion Cynllunio Planning Objectives	Not Applicable
Amcanion Llesiant BIP: UHB Well-being Objectives: Hyperlink to HDdUHB Well-being Objectives Annual Report 2021-2022	10. Not Applicable

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol: Further Information:	
Ar sail tystiolaeth: Evidence Base:	N/A
Rhestr Termau: Glossary of Terms:	Contained within the body of the report
Partïon / Pwyllgorau â ymgynhorwyd ymlaen llaw y Pwyllgor Ansawdd Iechyd a Diogelwch: Parties / Committees consulted prior to Health and Safety Committee:	Executive Team

Effaith: (rhaid cwblhau) Impact: (must be completed)	
Ariannol / Gwerth am Arian: Financial / Service:	N/A
Ansawdd / Gofal Claf: Quality / Patient Care:	Noted in the body of the report

Gweithlu: Workforce:	Noted in the body of the report
Risg: Risk:	Noted in the body of the report
Cyfreithiol: Legal:	Noted in the body of the report
Enw Da: Reputational:	Noted in the body of the report
Gyfrinachedd: Privacy:	N/A
Cydraddoldeb: Equality:	N/A