

Cyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol/  
Prif Weithredwr GIG Cymru  
Grŵp Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol

Director General Health and Social Services/  
NHS Wales Chief Executive  
Health and Social Services Group



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Mr Steve Moore  
Chief Executive  
Hywel Dda University Health Board  
Corporate Offices  
Ystwyth Building  
Hafen Derwen  
St David's Park  
Job's Well Road  
Carmarthen  
SA31 3BB

Our Ref: AG/MR/SB

5 October 2020

Dear Steve

### **Joint Escalation and Intervention Arrangements**

As you are aware, under the Joint Escalation and Intervention Arrangements, the Welsh Government meets with Audit Wales and Healthcare Inspectorate Wales twice a year to discuss the overall assessment of each health board and trust in relation to the arrangements.

A tripartite meeting has recently taken place and I write now to let you know your health board's status.

On the basis of the tripartite group discussion, Welsh Government officials will be recommending to the Minister that the escalation status of Hywel Dda University Health Board is reduced to 'enhanced monitoring'.

I would like to recognise the professional and considered way in which the NHS and your organisation has responded to the extraordinary circumstances of the pandemic response. I would also like to thank you and your team on the work you did in relation to the setting up of Field Hospitals across Wales. This has been an important initiative in dealing with COVID.

It was agreed the escalation status should be reduced due to the continued good performance the health board was showing prior to COVID. The group was complimentary on the way you had responded to the KPMG review. In order for the health board to move into routine monitoring, the group felt that there was a need for the organisation to focus on future financial plans, which will be dependent on delivering the clinical strategy.

Despite the de-escalation, some concerns and issues were raised by the group for you to consider and improve upon, namely:

- Challenges still remain around the health board's financial position and management;
- The need to ensure that appropriate planning capacity and leadership is in place recognising the significant commitments in the clinical strategy.

In the meantime, Welsh Government colleagues will continue to provide the necessary specialised support and advice to address issues raised. We will continue to have regular JET and Q&D meetings with subject specific discussions as and when considered necessary.

Yours sincerely



**Dr Andrew Goodall CBE**