



Ms. R Bond  
Assistant Director of Primary Care  
Hywel Dda University Health Board  
c/o [ask.hdd@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:ask.hdd@wales.nhs.uk)

21 May 2024

Dear Rhian,

**Re: Response to St David's practice GMS contract termination**

Please would you accept this letter as our official stakeholder response to the consultation period.

Thank you for the information you have provided us to date in regard to the Health Board's proposals to continue GMS to the patients of the St David's practice. We appreciate the modelling work you and your Team have undertaken in regard to the proposed allocation of patients.

That said, we do however feel it is important that we ensure the Health Board is aware of our dissent from the proposed solution.

To explain, as a Practice we have never closed our list and have historically accepted organic growth of our list size in a sustainable way. In the past couple of years, we have also worked with the Health Board to ensure continuation of GMS for patients previously registered with Neyland and Johnston and Solva when both terminated their contracts however, in recent months we have ourselves been in communication with the Health Board to make yourselves aware of our own sustainability issues.

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Drs. V Buntwal, A Paterson, S Vijay, T Ali, C John, K Mathias, Dr J Craft

St. Thomas' Surgery, Rifleman Lane, St. Thomas' Green,  
Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA61 1QX

Tel: (01437) 762 162

We continue to struggle to recruit clinicians, especially doctors,

With a patient list size of circa 13,300 now we have serious concerns that any increase in patient numbers from sources other than organic growth will seriously hamper our ability to continue to meet the GMS demands of our existing patients.

Whilst we welcome the financial support being offered per patient if we support the Health Board in the case of a dispersal of patients, we feel that this is not enough to compensate for the burden, both clinical and administrative that this will place on the Practice. For the Practice to manage to take on this additional burden we would likely also need, as a minimum, additional support from the Health Board's pharmacy team to assist with medication change management for dispersed patients.

We accept there is no simple solution to this problem and will continue to engage with the Health Board on the matter. That said, we feel it is important our views on this matter are formally noted.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Vivek Buntwal  
On Behalf of St Thomas Surgery Partnership

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