



Mr. Mark Hackett  
Chief Executive of the Swansea Bay University Health  
Board

**By Email Only:**

[SBU.engagement@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:SBU.engagement@wales.nhs.uk)

Dear Mr. Hackett,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council's Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.

During a recent meeting of the scrutiny committee, we received notification of your intention to change the way in which 'Older People Mental Health' services are delivered. We were informed that a consultation had taken place and recently closed and as a committee we were disappointed that, despite being the Council's committee tasked with scrutinising Health and Wellbeing, we had not been regarded by you as a stakeholder and thus included in the consultation. Consequently, we wish to take this opportunity to share our views with you and request that you consider these alongside the consultation responses already received despite the consultation having concluded.

Firstly, as a committee we would like to express our appreciation to yourselves for your hard work during the pandemic, as it has been undoubtedly one of the most difficult and unprecedented of times.

We understand and support your aim in providing more community based services in order to enable those people who wish to stay at home to remain there for as long as possible. However, we are concerned that this will place an added burden onto the Local Authority's already over stretched domestic care providers.

We were also concerned to hear that you are proposing to reduce by almost fifty per cent the number of in-patient specialist older people mental health beds in Tonna Hospital and to centralise provision of in-

patient care at Cefn Coed as this is difficult to access by public transport for many of our residents, particularly those living in valley communities

Therefore, as the Chair of the Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee and on behalf of the members of the committee, I wish to extend an invitation to you and your colleagues to attend a future meeting of the committee to discuss this matter further and to raise with you our concerns.

Please could you respond directly to my scrutiny officer Charlotte Davies, via email [c.l.davies2@npt.gov.uk](mailto:c.l.davies2@npt.gov.uk) or telephone 01639 763745 who will liaise with you directly to make the necessary arrangements.

We look forward to your response.

**Councillor Linet Purcell**

**Chair of the Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee**

**Councillor Linet Purcell**

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Croesewir gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymdrin â gohebiaeth Gymraeg a Saesneg i'r un safonau ac amserlenni.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh and will deal with Welsh and English correspondence to the same standards and timescales.