

**Changing for the Future**

**Public Engagement Proposals for Hydrotherapy Services**

**Following Covid-19**

Response Form

**Please complete this questionnaire and return to us by midnight on**

**Friday, 18th February, 2022**

# Introduction

Swansea Bay University Health Board will collate all responses which will ensure feedback from individuals is anonymous, but views from organisations may be published in full.

All of the questions are optional, and any information you provide in response to this engagement will be processed in line with the requirements of the UK Data Protection Act and the EU General Data Protection Regulation.

Information will only be used to inform this engagement and any personal information which could identify you will be kept for no longer than 1 year after decisions have been made. For further information, please contact [ABM.DPO@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:ABM.DPO@wales.nhs.uk).

# Background

Swansea Bay University Health Board currently has a hydrotherapy pool situated within each of our main three hospitals; Morriston, Singleton and Neath Port Talbot. These pools are used to support relevant patients in the management of a range of debilitating short and long-term conditions.

Hydrotherapy offers the opportunity to perform activities or exercises within water. These exercises/activities are guided by a physiotherapist and form part of a wider rehabilitation programme. It is not a standalone treatment.

# Capacity and Usage

The Health Board prior to the pandemic, reviewed the capacity and usage of the hydrotherapy pools on all its sites. On average the pool facilities were open for use for approximately 5/6 hours per day, on a Monday to Friday basis, however not all sessions were fully utilised.

# Hydrotherapy Facilities on each Site

**Singleton Hospital**

* Opened in 1990
* Separate entrance within a short walking distance to the Physiotherapy Department and Hydrotherapy Pool
* Nearby Disabled Parking
* Capacity for 6 service users and a therapist in the pool at any one time
* Its combination of size and location means that it is best suited for community and group access
* Arrangement in place to hire out the hydrotherapy pool, at a small charge, to community groups and voluntary sector organisations for sessions in the evening.
* Due to the pandemic in early 2020 this pool was temporarily closed, however in May, 2021 reopened, operating 7 hours a day on average, with all sessions Monday to Friday utilised.
* Advice from Infection Prevention and Control on procedures for this pool have allowed it to be used.

**Neath Port Talbot Hospital**

* Opened in 2003
* Well situated for out-patient access
* Capacity for 3 service users and a therapist in the pool at any one time
* Due to the pandemic in early 2020 this pool was temporarily closed, however in May, 2021 reopened, operating 7 hours a day on average, with all sessions Monday to Friday utilised.
* Advice from Infection Prevention and Control on procedures for this pool have allowed it to be used.

**Morriston Hospital**

* This pool is our largest and oldest pool, having opened in 1985
* Capacity to accommodate up to 8 service users and a therapist at any one time
* Poorly situated for out-patient or community access as its located in the centre of the hospital
* Difficult to get to, particularly for some of the patient groups involved where mobility is affected
* Prior to the pandemic, and in spite of its access problems, this facility was used for In and Out patients.
* Due to the pandemic in early 2020 this pool was temporarily closed and remains closed based on infection prevention and control advice due to the higher risk of Covid-19 infection on this site.

# How will we get to the hydrotherapy pools?

We know that when we put services on fewer sites this can sometimes cause difficulties when people need to use our services, especially for people who do not have access to a car or are dependent on public transport. Both Singleton and Neath Port Talbot Hospitals have good public transport links. We are currently working with the voluntary sector to look at how we can offer alternatives to improve access to several health services and this would be part of those discussions.

# What are the benefits of this proposal:

* Improved access with increased capacity allowing our patients to be treated.
* Dedicated slots for different patient groups.
* Concentrating staff resources on fewer sites will allow more hydrotherapy staff to develop expertise which in turn will improve the service patients receive.
* Improved options for long term self-management by linking with more patient support groups enabling pool hire out. This will allow more of our population with chronic conditions to access our pools and self-manage on a long term basis.
* Support ongoing recovery by linking with local leisure facilities, empowering our patients with the confidence to access their own local facilities will give them more flexibility to take an active role in their own rehab and potentially progress further and quicker.
* Patients will have hydrotherapy at locations closer to their homes.

**What are the disadvantages which could arise from the proposed changes:**

* Some outpatients may have to travel further to access facilities.
* A small number of Morriston Hospital in-patients may lose access, including a handful of patients receiving critical care. However, the development of centres of excellence will promote early discharge from Morriston Hospital so they can attend hydrotherapy at Singleton or Neath Port Talbot Hospitals as outpatients depending on where they live or patients being transferred to Neath Port Talbot Hospital for specialist rehabilitation.

**Changing for the Future – Centre of Excellence**

The Health Board, in partnership with the Swansea Bay Community Health Council, considered the outcome of the Engagement regarding Urgent and Planned Care after Covid-19 at its meeting on 28th October. The Board agreed the proposals could go ahead, with some additional actions to address the concerns raised as part of the feedback. It was agreed that further work would carried out on how we provide hydrotherapy services in the future, building on the feedback received during this process.

Building on the intention to develop each of our main hospitals as a Centre of Excellence in their own right and the feedback received from the previous engagement process, it is important that we consider how the provision of hydrotherapy can best fit into this direction of travel so that we can improve access to hydrotherapy services and provide them to a higher standard.

Additional information regarding the work on Urgent and Planned Care and the development of our main hospital as Centres of Excellence can be found in the Engagement Document.

# It’s over to you!

We would like to know what you think of this proposal – do you agree or disagree to the changes outlined above.

**Question 1**

To what extent to do you agree / disagree with the proposal to close the Hydrotherapy pool at Morriston Hospital.?

Choose one of the following answers:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Strongly disagree | ☐ |
| Tend to disagree | ☐ |
| Neither agree nor disagree | ☐ |
| Tend to agree | ☐ |
| Strongly agree | ☐ |
| Don’t know | ☐ |

**Please provide your comments to support your answer above.**

**Question 2**

What comments / issues do you want the Health Board to consider in relation to the closure of the Hydrotherapy pool at Morriston when it considers the outcome of this engagement? This can include transport, access, etc.

Please use the space below to write your answer.

**Copies of the Engagement Document and Response form are also available on the Health Board’s web site, along with other formats such as Welsh, Easy Read and Audio Books.**

**Because of the pandemic we will keep under review our ability to provide face to face opportunities to discuss these proposals and get their views as we normally do. However instead we will be hosting a series of sessions where we will explain these changes and be able to answer your questions and hear your views on these issues. A list of these events will be found on our website, and we will also be publicizing these on social media.**

**Equality**

As a public body, Swansea Bay University Health Board has a duty to take into account the impact of their decisions on people with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) as well as the Human Rights Act 1998 and Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

**Are there any groups protected under the Equality Act 2010 who you believe will be positively or negatively affected by our proposed changes? If so, what could we do to enhance positive or reduce negative impacts?**

**Information about you**

Are you

Providing your own personal response ☐

Submitting a response on behalf of an organisation ☐

The NHS has a duty to promote equality and we want to make sure that we include all parts of the population in our engagement. To help with this we would be grateful if you would answer the following questions. All questions are optional, and we will take all engagement responses into account whether or not you provide these details.

**How will we process your information?**

Welsh Government guidance on public engagement and consultation (Section 183 of the National Health Services (Wales) Act 2006), requires the Health Board to have in place arrangements for continuous engagement with the public and stakeholder, which includes a specific requirement relating to Service Change. Therefore, we can process your personal data in relation to

your consultation response to meet our legal obligations, to fulfil our public task and to support service provision.

Swansea Bay University Health Board will be the data controller for any personal data you provide as part of your response to the engagement and/or consultation. Responses will be used when considering what changes should be made. Identifiable responses will only be seen by Health Board staff who are dealing with the engagement and/or consultation.

We will store your information for no more than three years.

We will publish the outcome of the consultation which will be publically available. This will not include your personal information but may include a summary of responses provided.

**Your rights**

Under data protection legislation, you have the right:

* to be informed of the personal data held about you and to access it
* to require us to rectify inaccuracies in that data
* to (in certain circumstances) object to or restrict processing
* for (in certain circumstances) your data to be ‘erased’
* to (in certain circumstances) data portability
* to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) who is the independent regulator for data protection, contact details below:

Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113

Website: <https://ico.org.uk/>

For further information about how Swansea Bay University Health Board processes your personal information, please view the full privacy notice on our website. Should you wish to exercise your rights under the GDPR, please contact:

Data Protection Officer, Swansea Bay University Health Board Headquarters, 1 Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot. SA12 7BR

***TICK ONLY ONE BOX FOR EACH QUESTION***

**What was your age on your last birthday?**

|  |
| --- |
| * Under 16 |
| * 16 -24 |
| * 25 – 34 |
| * 35 – 44 |
| * 45 – 54 |
| * 55 – 64 |
| * 65 – 74 |
| * 75 or over |
| * Prefer not to say |

**Gender**

**Which of the following describes how you think of yourself?**

|  |
| --- |
| * Female |
| * Male |
| * Other/I prefer to use my own term |
| * Prefer not to say |

**Which of the following best describes your ethnic group or background?**

**White**

* + Welsh / English / Scottish/ Northern Irish / British
  + Irish
  + Gypsy or Irish Traveller
  + Any other white background (please describe)

…………………………………………………….

**Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups**

* + White and Black Caribbean
  + White and Black African
  + White and Asian
  + Any other mixed/multiple ethnic background (please describe)

…………………………………………………….

**Asian/Asian Welsh/Asian British**

* + Indian
  + Pakistani
  + Bangladeshi
  + Chinese
  + Any other Asian background (please describe)

……………………………………………………..

**Black/Black Welsh/African/Caribbean/Black British**

* + African
  + Caribbean
  + Any other Black/Black British/African/Caribbean background (please)

………………………………………………………

**Other ethnic group**

* + Arab
  + Any other ethnic group (please describe)
  + Prefer not to say

**Disability**

Are your day-to-day activities reduced because of physical or mental health conditions or illnesses which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?

|  |
| --- |
| * Yes, limited a lot. |
| * Yes, limited a little. |
| * No. |
| * Prefer not to say. |

**Sexual Orientation**

**Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?**

|  |
| --- |
| * Bisexual |
| * Gay or Lesbian |
| * Straight/Heterosexual * Other/I prefer to use my own term |
| * Prefer not to say |

**Marriage and Civil Partnership**

**What is your legal marital or registered civil partnership status?**

|  |
| --- |
| * Never married and never registered civil partnership. |
| * Married. |
| * Separated, but still legally married. |
| * Divorced. |
| * Widowed. |
| * In a registered civil partnership. |
| * Separated, but still legally in a civil partnership. |
| * Formerly in a civil partnership which is now legally dissolved. |
| * Surviving partner from a registered civil partnership. * Prefer not to say |

**Religion**

What is your religion?

|  |
| --- |
| * No religion. |
| * Christian (all denominations). |
| * Buddhist. |
| * Hindu. |
| * Jewish. |
| * Muslim. |
| * Sikh. |
| * Any other religion (please describe) |

**Pregnancy and Maternity**

Are you currently pregnant or have you been pregnant in the last year?

|  |
| --- |
| * Yes |
| * No |
| * Prefer not to say. |

**In the past year, have you taken?**

|  |
| --- |
| * Maternity leave. |
| * Additional paternity leave (e.g. more than 2 weeks). |
| * Adoption leave. * Prefer not to say. |

**Gender Identity**

**Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?**

|  |
| --- |
| * Yes |
| * No |
| * Prefer not to say |

**Please return this response form by mid-night on Friday 18th February, 2022. You can do this by e-mail, post (details below) or by using the Drop Boxes located in the main reception area of the Physiotherapy Department at Morriston, Singleton and Neath Port Talbot Hospitals.**

**If you have any queries or would like assistance in completing the questionnaire, please email:** [**SBU.Engagement@wales.nhs.uk**](mailto:SBU.Engagement@wales.nhs.uk) **or phone (01639) 683355**

**You can also let us know what you think:**

**By writing to us: Chief Executive Swansea Bay UHB One Talbot Gateway Baglan. SA12 7BR**

**Emailing us:** [**SBU.Engagement@wales.nhs.uk**](mailto:SBU.Engagement@wales.nhs.uk)

**Phoning us: (01639) 683355**

**Facebook: Swansea Bay NHS or via Twitter: @SwanseabayNHS**

**Alternatively, you can let the Community Health Council know your views by:**

**Writing to them: Swansea Bay Community Health Council**

**Cimla Health and Social Care Cimla**

**Neath SA11 3SU**

**Or emailing them:** [**Swanseabay@waleschc.org.uk**](mailto:Swanseabay@waleschc.org.uk)