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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University  
Health Board



Meeting Date	01 June 2021	Agenda Item	3.1
Report Title	Estates Health & Safety Report		
Report Author	Des Keighan – Assistant Director of Operations – Estates		
Report Sponsor	Craige Wilson – Deputy Chief Operating Officer		
Presented by	Des Keighan – Assistant Director of Operations – Estates		
Freedom of Information	Open		
Purpose of the Report	The purpose of the report is to update the group on Health & Safety Assurance within the Estates function over a range of specialist areas, including Fire, Asbestos, Low Voltage Systems and also cover some general assurance issues.		
Key Issues	<p>The Department continue to work hard to meet our statutory obligations and have identified the need for additional resources to effectively manage our responsibilities over the full range of Estates disciplines. The Department have now been given permission to recruit two additional Estates Officers and is planning to implement the first phase of enhancing the structure.</p> <p>As previously reported, compared to other Health Boards we invest significantly less on Estates Management. One of the key areas is that of compliance, as a number of other Health Boards have invested in developing their own Estates Compliance and Risk Management Teams. The Department are striving to enhance the management arrangements which will see the expansion of the existing structure.</p>		
<b>Medical Gas Pipeline System:</b> We have AP's appointed for Singleton Hospital and Morriston Hospital. However, the need to shield certain staff has affected our ability to provide those services. We are using our incumbent medical gas contractor (MES) to provide additional cover to support and we have now secured places for AP training over the coming months. As previously reported, both Singleton and Morriston have had site O <sup>2</sup> capacity increased as part of COVID-19 response.			

Drawings have been updated for the Medical Gas Pipeline systems at Morriston, however, refresher training of senior nursing staff has been identified as a key action for 2021/22.

The Draft Audit Report has been received from the AE, who has highlighted the following key actions.

- Train, nominate for assessment and appoint more MGPS AP's to provide cover at Morriston Hospital. The appointment of additional officers will support this.
- Rationalise and develop the MGPS Committee and ensure relevant personnel are in attendance at regular meetings. This has prompted the changes to current arrangements with the Deputy Chief Operating Officer now taking the Chair from July 2021.
- Review and update the MGPS Operational Policy and procedures this will be completed over the coming months .
- Ensure that written schemes of examination and schematic drawings are in place for those relevant to the MGPS under the terms of the Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000.
- Train and appoint sufficient Designated Nursing/Medical (DNO/DMO) officers, and Designated Porters. Ensure all general staff using medical gases receive appropriate training.

The AE has also questioned arrangements for NPT but has been advised that the responsibility for those systems rests with Baglan Moor Healthcare and they have their own AE.

The department will be developing an action in response to the recommendations.

#### **Electrical Services – LV:**

There is now an AE LV appointed, and following a lot of work we now have AP's in place at both Morriston and Singleton Hospitals. However, the pandemic has meant that we have had issues over the number of AP's available due to shielding commitments and it is hoped this position will improve over the coming months. The appointment of a BMS Officer and two additional Estates Officers will enhance the number of AP's on the site once they complete their training.

Further appointments as highlighted earlier in the report will help provide greater cover for the site.

CP training has not taken forward due to the pandemic and the nature of the testing process there is some way to go before appointments can be formalised. However, we have started discussing how this could be rolled out to contractors employed by the Health Board over the next 12 months.

There are issues on both main acute sites with the electrical services with regard to compliance with the WHTM. These have been captured within the infrastructure bids for Morriston Hospital as well as bids against the new Capital infrastructure monies as they had been identified within our backlog maintenance issues. It is pleasing to note that we have been successful in obtaining £4/5 million infrastructure funding. However, this did not include funding for electrical services.

**Electrical Services – HV:**

The Health Board has appointed an Authorised Engineer, and a draft HV policy has been developed, however a number of comments have been received which meant the policy required redrafting. It is the intention to submit this to the next Health and Safety Operational group. We have an AP appointed for HV (with limited duties) on Singleton Hospital and one member of staff who has completed his training and has now been assessed, and on Morriston Hospital we have had 1 officer due to attend the HV training in the Summer, 1 who attended but needs an update prior to undertaking his assessment.

**Ventilation System:**

A final draft of the Ventilation Policy is being finalised and it is planned to submit to the next Health & Safety Operational Group.

We have an AP appointed in Singleton Hospital whilst in Morriston Hospital, we are struggling due to the fact we do not have sufficient estates officers. However, we have now had permission to appoint additional Estates Officers and enhancements to the management structure will provide greater depth. The last Audit Report highlighted the fact that a large proportion of our plant is non-compliant with the current HTM's, noting that the plant was not designed to meet the current standards. We have made bids under the all wales infrastructure funding to carry out repairs to the existing plant and were successful in gaining £72K for AHU repairs.

**Estates Fire Safety:**

Welsh Government have provided a capital infrastructures fund of around £5 million to address fire issues across Health Boards in Wales. Bids have been prepared for this funding by the Health Board. The Assistant Director of Health and Safety has submitted bids for additional staff and the Health Board recognise that the completion of the risk assessments will identify work that needs to be undertaken by the Health Board which then means that we will need to invest further to complete this work.

The Health Board currently has insufficient staff to meet the ongoing demand from the completion of the work identified fire risk assessments. Initial findings show that we need a number of additional staff and the Health Board need to decide how to address this issue of utilising contractors to complete the work to allow us to cope with the volume of work arising from the risk assessments. We also need Project Management resources to oversee this work and develop the appropriate specifications and tenders where appropriate.

**Cause and Effect Drawings:**

Whilst work has been completed for large parts of Singleton, Shared Services have offered to support the Health Board in the development of these documents for Morriston. The Assistant Director for Health & Safety is in discussion with Shared Services on the issue.

**Emergency lighting:**

There are a number of areas within the Health Board especially the acute sites where we need to improve the lighting. We are continuing to invest each year in trying to improve levels of compliance.

**Fire Dampers:** The Health Board have to undertake a review of critical clinical areas to ensure that fire dampers are in place.

A number of them due to their location, are inaccessible and therefore unmaintainable as they are often in confined areas or within walls. The Department have commissioned a survey of its fire dampers on the main acute sites and are looking to put in place contracts with a specialist maintenance company to undertake their maintenance. However, there is still a need to address the underlying problem which is ensuring that fire dampers are maintainable. Within future capital schemes the Health Board will strive to include **moving** dampers wherever possible

**Fire Compartmentation:**

There are a number of areas where due to the numbers and range of changes undertaken on site, fire compartmentation could be improved. This is an ongoing issue. The Health Board has secured over £450K for the coming year to address compartmentation issues, which will see investment on both the Singleton and Morriston Hospital sites. Capital colleagues will be taking these improvements forward.

**Decontamination:**

As previously reported, we have an AP in Singleton, and we have appointed a member of staff on the Morriston Hospital site. This individual has undertaken the Decontamination training and is awaiting assessment by the AE. However, this has been on hold due to COVID-19 but is hope it will take place in the coming week as restrictions are lifted.

**Asbestos Management:**

The Department will undertake further work this year from discretionary capital to address asbestos management issues. As the Health Board continues to complete the infrastructure programme, the removal of asbestos will be included within these projects where appropriate.

Within Singleton Hospital there is a significant amount of Asbestos present within the void service areas. Control measures have been put into place to limit access to these areas. However, when we have a water leak in this area, the engineering solution is often very simple but due to the location of the leak within the voids it has to be undertaken by registered specialist asbestos companies, which this is having a significant impact on the operational arrangements on site both in terms of the timeliness of the Department's response and the financial cost of completing any repairs as even minor repairs become expensive.

**Cefn Coed:**

Due to the closure plans for the site there is no proposed planned programme for the removal of asbestos, however, it needs to be recognised that due to the extent and location of the asbestos and its condition, it is starting to have an effect on the day-to-day operation of the site. Whilst it is controlled, it does increase the costs of any repairs that are required.

**Lifts:**

There is no specific policy for lifts and the role of CP's sit with our maintenance contractor who by their appointment take on this role, on behalf of the Health Board. In light of the nature of the lifts in Singleton Hospital. A member of staff is due to attend training once the pandemic restrictions have been removed. Once again capacity with the number of Estates Officers available to take on this role is an issue. However, in light of approval to appoint additional Estates staff will help address this issue.

Whilst it appears the Department have a number of areas to improve on, there are a number of positives with progress having been made on the development of a number of the policies and the training of staff to undertake AP duties. However, the confirmation of further appointments to support the management of Estates services is a major step forward.

The introduction of the All Wales Capital Infrastructure Fund has also had a positive impact on the Estate. The Department had identified funding to do the first phase of these changes and has now had permission to proceed in the next few months

<b>Specific Action Required (please choose one only)</b>	<b>Information</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Assurance</b>	<b>Approval</b>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Recommendations</b>	Members are asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>NOTE/DISCUSS THE REPORT</b></li> </ul>			

## **ESTATES HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of the report is to update the group on Health & Safety Assurance within the Estates function over a range of specialist areas, including Asbestos, Low Voltage and High Voltage Systems, Ventilation and Decontamination and also cover some general assurance issues.

### **2. BACKGROUND**

The Department has now had permission to proceed with Phase One of its structural changes which will improve our capacity to manage over a range of disciplines including LV, HV, and Water etc. There are still concerns, however, this is a significant step in the right direction.

The Department continue to work hard to meet our statutory obligations and have identified the need for further resources to effectively manage our responsibilities over the full range of Estates disciplines, however, the appointments once made will make a significant difference.

As previously reported, the changes approved recognised that compared to other Health Boards we invested significantly less on Estates Management and are the start of the improvement process.

### **3. GOVERNANCE AND RISK ISSUES**

The Department have made progress in a number of areas, however, a lack of resources continues to restrict the extent of which progress can be made. The funding from Welsh Government for Infrastructure bids will go some way to helping address a number of the risks identified and the Department and the changes now agreed will see the Department start to improve the Health Board's ability to respond to the demands of the service.

### **4. RECOMMENDATION**

The Committee are asked to note the contents of the report.

<b>Governance and Assurance</b>		
<b>Link to Enabling Objectives</b> (please choose)	<b>Supporting better health and wellbeing by actively promoting and empowering people to live well in resilient communities</b>	
	Partnerships for Improving Health and Wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Co-Production and Health Literacy	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Digitally Enabled Health and Wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>Deliver better care through excellent health and care services achieving the outcomes that matter most to people</b>	
	Best Value Outcomes and High Quality Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Partnerships for Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Excellent Staff	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Digitally Enabled Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Outstanding Research, Innovation, Education and Learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Health and Care Standards</b>		
(please choose)	Staying Healthy	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Safe Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Effective Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Dignified Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Timely Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Individual Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Staff and Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Quality, Safety and Patient Experience</b>		
This paper updates the Committee on compliance over a range of Estates issues.		
<b>Financial Implications</b>		
At present there are no financial implications.		
<b>Legal Implications (including equality and diversity assessment)</b>		
The paper updates on current risks within the Estate.		
<b>Staffing Implications</b>		
A paper is being drafted around the staffing requirements for the Department moving forward.		
<b>Long Term Implications (including the impact of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015)</b>		
The paper updates the Committee on compliance issues within the Estates function, identifying risks and explaining the steps being taken to mitigate these risks. The Department recognises the need for additional funding and work is ongoing on a Business Case around resources required to address these issues in the longer term both from a staffing and capital investment perspective.		
<b>Report History</b>	This is the second report on Estates Compliance. Previous report dated February 2020.	
<b>Appendices</b>	N/A	