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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University  
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**  
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Tracy Myhill**

**gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser**  
**caring for each other, working together, always improving**

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020  
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 20-H-010

☎ 01639 648363  
✉ [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk)

Corporate Services  
Headquarters  
1 Talbot Gateway  
Baglan  
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Dear

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2020. Your request sought information relating to winter travel plans.

**Given the potential for resurgent COVID-19 waves, ongoing localised lockdowns as well as annual winter pressures, I am looking into arrangements that Health Boards will be making to support their staff in getting to and from work during 1 Dec 2020 - 31 Mar 2021.**

**Please can I have a response to the following question?**

- 1. What plans do you have in place to support staff with travel to and from work between 1 December 2020 to 31 March 2021, in case public transport is disrupted due to severe weather conditions and/or COVID-19 lockdowns, locally or nationwide? [Such as: booking hotel rooms; hiring private accommodation; paying for taxis; creating special rest rooms]**

The arrangements are different for COVID-19 and adverse weather and would only ever be in response to local impact on home to work travel.

The Health Board has an Adverse Weather Procedure and this includes the transport arrangements for staff during times when inclement weather impedes staff travelling to and from work. This includes a coordinated 4x4 vehicle service and this is managed by Health Board Support Services.

During the COVID-19 national lockdown, the health board established a transport help line which staff could contact if they needed any support, this included out of office hours cover. This was to support staff only if they could find no alternative



**Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR**

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Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

means for home to work travel and this would be in operation again if there was a local impact/lockdown in response to COVID-19.

Also during the national lockdown the Health Board did provide staff accommodation during the impact of the COVID 19 outbreak, but this was NOT linked to any impact on public transport, that was not one of the mitigating factors. The health board provided for paid accommodation for those colleagues who are either:

- Working in COVID-19 area;
- Have family members at home who meets the Welsh Government vulnerable/shielding guidance;
- Staff who have family members who are self-isolating and cannot go home; and
- Staff who require accommodation due to urgent response or mitigating factors.

Again, if there was local impact/lockdown during the period requested, then this would be reinstated also.

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk).

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk).

If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



Pam Wenger  
**Director of Corporate Governance**

