

Val Whiting
Dirprwy Gyfarwyddwr, Cyfalaf, Ystadau a Cyfleusterau/
Deputy Director, Capital, Estates & Facilities



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Mark Layton
H M Senior Coroner for the Areas of Carmarthenshire & Pembrokeshire
Coroner's Office
Town Hall
Hamilton Terrace
Milford Haven
Pembrokeshire
SA73 3JW

3 June 2016

Dear Mr Layton,

Thank you for your email of 3 May to [REDACTED] Acting Chief Medical Officer, enclosing your Regulation 28 report following the death of Mihangel ap Dafydd at Morlais Ward, West Wales General Hospital, Glangwilli. I am replying in my role as the lead official for NHS estates and facilities issues within Welsh Government.

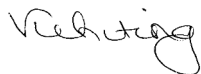
I note your report and requested actions have been sent to the Chief Executive of Hywel Dda University Health Board. However, given that you have identified issues which are of relevance to all NHS organisations, I can confirm that we will be issuing an addendum to Health Building Note 35 – *“Accommodation for People with Mental Illness Part 1: The Acute Unit Ligature Free Design”*. This addendum will specifically highlight the requirement for ligature free design in both new and existing acute mental health unit facilities in Wales. The addendum to the Health Building Note will also widen the requirements to other facilities dealing with acute mental health in-patients including Children & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS). This document is in the process of being finalised by Welsh Government officials and our NHS estates advisors and will issue by the end of this month.

In addition to the above, I have also requested that NHS Shared Services Partnership – Specialist Estate Services (NWSSP-SES) undertake a formal review of HBN 35. This will consider if the HBN needs more substantial amendment or if it should be superseded by a revised HBN 03-01, amended, where required, to reflect further developments in Welsh Government policy and any specific needs of NHS Wales.

I will pick up the individual circumstances and actions taken by Hywel Dda University Health Board at Glangwili Hospital when I next meet the Health Board later this month.

I hope you find this information useful. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further concerns or queries.

Yours sincerely



Val Whiting

cc: [REDACTED], Deputy Director for Mental Health & Vulnerable
Groups Policy
[REDACTED] Acting Chief Medical Officer
[REDACTED] Director NHS Wales Specialist Estates Services