Prif Swyddog Meddygol Dros Dro/ Acting Chief Medical Officer Grŵp lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol/ Health and Social Services Group



Llywodraeth Cymru

Mr Andrew Barkley Coroner for South Wales Central Area

28/7/16.
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5 July 2016

Thank you for your bringing to our attention the regulation 28 report following the investigation into the death of Gillian Rose Taylor. I have been sighted on Powys Teaching Health Boards response to address the concerns you have raised.

Under the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010 (the Measure) all patients in Wales receiving secondary mental health services must have a care coordinator and a care and treatment plan. This applies to Welsh patients who are placed 'out of area'. It is the responsibility of the 'home' health board to ensure the person receiving care and treatment has a care co coordinator and a holistic statutory plan. The care coordinator would normally attend reviews wherever a patient is, whether in England or Wales, this safeguard should assure continuity of care for all Welsh patients.

It is for Powys which is a very rural county to commission services for their smaller and dispersed population and in fact they do have acute mental health beds provided in Bronllys Hospital. There are also beds commissioned from neighbouring Trusts and Health Boards to minimise distances travelled by the population, or to provide expertise that require a level of critical mass and to meet professional guidelines that a population the size of Powys could not be expected to reach.

Since your report a meeting between all Health Boards mental health mangers facilitated by Welsh Government has been held to discuss using Welsh NHS beds whenever possible if local beds are not available. It was accepted that proximity to a patients home would have to be considered in this context.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

Prif Swyddog Meddygol Dros Dro **Acting Chief Medical Officer**



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