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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
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Cardiff and Vale
University Health Board

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Prof Stuart Walker
Interim Chief Executive

28 September 2021

Stephen Allen
Chief Officer
South Glamorgan Community Health Council
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Dear Stephen

The Pentyrch Surgery Proposal Engagement CHC Executive Committee Decision

Thank you for the letter you sent to Len Richards on 17 September which set out the CHC's Executive Committee's position on the engagement regarding the re-provision of the Pentyrch Branch Surgery building. We acknowledge that the CHC has recommended that the Health Board undertake a full public consultation. As you know, the Executive Team considered the matter earlier this week.

Full consideration was given to the CHC's recommendation, alongside independent legal advice we have also received. We have concluded that appropriate engagement has been undertaken, giving people in Pentyrch and the surrounding area the opportunity to express their views. Having concluded our discussion regarding the engagement, we turned our attention to the proposal itself and revisited what we heard during the engagement process. We understand that there are many people living in Pentyrch who strongly believe that the development should be located within the Village, although there were other residents who acknowledged the difficulty in terms of sites available for the size of development proposed. As a Health Board, we are required to future-proof our services as much as possible, and believe that this development will provide enhanced access to a wider range of services than is currently available in the branch surgery, and it will serve a wider geographical area including many of the new housing developments which are progressing at pace.

We are pleased that Dr Arulanandam and her partners are committed to developing the practice and expanding its services, making the practice more sustainable going forward. We are also satisfied that all viable options were considered, but that there was only one site that was viable to achieve the practice's plans. For these reasons, we have decided to support the development of the new premises on the Rhydlyfar site and will be submitting the business case to Welsh Government on this basis. We acknowledge that there is more work to be done as we take the development forward, with the local community to consider transport options to ensure that people can get to the new premises when they need to.

It is unfortunate that we appear to have a different view on the approach taken and we would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further with you, to see if we can reassure you on the points raised in your letter. As you know the practice is under considerable pressure and felt it would be difficult to maintain services in the porta cabin over another winter. I am sure that we can work with the practice to maintain services until the new premises is available – and the decision we have taken will no doubt be a big boost to the practice, knowing that the partners and staff are so committed to wanting to improve and expand services, and have worked so hard to get the proposals to this stage.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



Prof Stuart Walker MD FRCP
Interim Chief Executive

cc Charles Janczewski, Chair, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board