

**Oral Health, Quality and Patient Experience Group**  
**Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019**  
**Agenda Item 2.4 – Quality Improvement (In line with Dental Services and Financial Framework 2017-2020)**  
**i. Transfer of Paediatric GA to Morriston Hospital**

Sam Page reported that the Health Board's Senior Leadership Team reconfirmed in August 2019 that work should be undertaken to understand the possible move of the dental GA service from Parkway to the Morriston Hospital site. The SLT decision was on the advice of the medical director and in line with the Health Board's wider policy that all children's general anaesthetics should be on the Morriston site. Parkway Clinic were made aware of the decision in September and have been working with the Health Board since that date to look at possible models for delivery. The Health Board's Anaesthetic Department have also been contributing to this work. The Project Leads (SP and KB) were asked to provide an update to the SLT in early November which should include possible service delivery options and to confirm if this transfer of the service model is achievable.

Sam and Karl Bishop emphasised at the meeting that if the SLT decides that a service relocation is appropriate then full details will then be provided to all stakeholders. They also indicated that a wide consultation before this time was not practical since the full details and understanding of any relocation was not available and this needed to be established so that stakeholders had a full picture. They emphasised that any relocation will be based on medical issues and in line with the Health Board's policy for all paediatric services.

Karl also indicated that adjacent Health Boards were aware of SBUHB's initial decision and were being kept fully informed but it will be up to individual Health Boards how they respond to any relocation if that is the final decision.

I was unable to ascertain who had advised the SLT that this was the correct decision to make and that it could be done without reference to the LDC.

The Primary Care Team have been tasked with putting a system in place that will ensure that patients who require anaesthetic will not be disadvantaged in that similar systems to the existing system will be available to referring GPs and urgent referrals will be dealt with appropriately. The Primary Care Team is currently in discussions with relevant stakeholders (not including the LDC) and once they have a solution, or a number of solutions, we were informed that these will be widely consulted on.

The LDC stated that it had not been consulted on this decision by the Senior Management Team although it had been consulted on the initial setup of the Referral Management Centre and the introduction of emergencies into the system. There was however disagreement between the LDC and the Primary Care Team on whether the transition from an initial pilot to the ultimate decision by the

Senior Management Team was a proper consultation. This disagreement was not progressed at this stage but will need to be progressed in the near future

The LDC stated that its belief was that the decision of the Senior Management Team was not in accordance with the Welsh Statutory Instrument 2010 No. 2846 (W.234) - The Local Health Boards (Consultation with Local Dental Committees) (Wales) Regulations 2010 clause 2 Planning and Delivery of Services. As such it intended to make a complaint to the Chair of Swansea Bay University Health Board that the decision did not comply with the requirements of the aforementioned Welsh Statutory Instrument and ask for a response. On receipt of the response it would decide on the next steps it will take. It should be noted that an interim chair is in place whilst the appointment of the permanent chair is ongoing. This is the situation at the time of writing.

The question for the LDC at this stage is whether to make the complaint immediately or wait until the Primary Care Team has been able to come up with a solution or solutions which are feasible and go out to consultation on these. The communication with the Chair of SBUHB can be as a complaint or just a notification that they had not adhered to the Regulations and ask for their comments.

A reminder that we have an LDC meeting scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> November. Unfortunately, Sam Page is unable to attend since she is in N Wales, but is keen to attend the January LDC Meeting (date will be arranged at the meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> November). We will discuss at the meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> November.

Roger Pratley  
Secretary, Morgannwg LDC

### ***Addendum from Sam Page***

To summarise the Senior Leadership Team of the Health Board has reconfirmed the position that the Unit needs to consider alternative arrangements to Parkway Clinic for the delivery of dental paediatric GA services on the Murrison Hospital site consistent with the needs of the population and existing Welsh Government and Health Board policies. We have over the last few months been working with Parkway and colleagues in Murrison Hospital to firstly consider if this is achievable and this is the current stage that we are at, an update on this work was presented to SLT last week. There was an agreement that based on this scoping work that has been undertaken the Unit is now in a position to formally share the final detail of the scoping work and I will work on putting this together for discussion at our Liaison meeting on 22 November which you will receive in advance.