

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

**County Council
22nd October 2014**

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Barry Thomas, Leader

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Matthew Dorrance

Wye Valley NHS Trust which runs Hereford County Hospital has been put in special measures after it was rated "inadequate".

Clearly, this is a concern for citizens in Powys who access services cross border from the English trust.

What discussions is Powys County Council having with Powys teaching Local Health Board and the local Community Health Councils about the matter?

Powys County Council have been advised by Powys teaching Health Board (PtHB) that the Wye Valley NHS Trust has been placed into special measures and PtHB have made the following statement:-

Powys teaching Health Board would like to reassure those Powys residents that access services in Hereford about the services they receive.

Powys teaching Health Board commissions both emergency and planned care from the Trust and is working alongside the Hereford Clinical Commissioning Group to support it to put in place plans to improve the quality of its services.

The Health Board has confidence that the announced partnership with University Hospitals Birmingham will further strengthen the ability for Wye Valley NHS trust to address the significant challenges identified in the Care Quality Commission report and welcomes the additional support that this will provide.

The Health Board recognises its role in supporting the Trust in reducing the burden of acute care and the importance of Powys's contribution in implementing plans to reduce unnecessary emergency admissions, as we move into the winter months.

We welcome feedback from our patients and their carers about their experience of services that they receive from ourselves and all our providers and will continue to use this to inform the work we undertake with our providers to improve the quality of health services for Powys residents.

Through our strategic and operational arrangements we will continue to keep the situation under close review and work in partnership with PtHB to take any necessary steps to ensure our Powys residents can access the services that they need. The matter is also being discussed at PTHB's board which meets today.