

Meeting	Care Scrutiny Committee
Date	30 January 2018
Subject	Health in Blaenau Ffestiniog
Scrutiny Log Reference	G 7

Gwynedd Council Full Meeting – 15 June 2017

- 1 The following notice of motion was submitted by Councillor Glyn Daniels, to a full meeting of the Council on 15 June 2017:

"I propose that Gwynedd Council supports the Hospital Defence Committee and the residents of Blaenau Ffestiniog to press on the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and relevant authorities to ensure that appropriate and necessary facilities are provided in the new hospital being built in the town.

With this I mean facilities that are usually found in local hospitals, such as a x-ray unit, minor injuries unit and a sufficient number of beds for inpatients. Given that Blaenau Ffestiniog is the third largest town in Gwynedd and also that the response of the vast majority of residents in a recent referendum insisted that the town deserved to be treated in a better way, I believe that there is no reason why the Council should not support this proposal."

- 2 It was decided to refer the matter to the Care Scrutiny Committee, so that a decision could be made after having the opportunity to listen to and consider relevant evidence on the matter, by inviting representatives from the Health Board and the Defence Committee to a meeting of the Committee to present evidence.
- 3 It was noted that time was not on the Council's side, if there was a desire to influence the Health Board, and the Chair of the Care Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Eryl Jones-Williams, expressed his willingness to call an extraordinary meeting of the committee in order to give the matter attention.
- 4 It was decided to refer the matter immediately to the Care Scrutiny Committee to be discussed as soon as possible.

Care Scrutiny Committee Special Meeting – 4 September 2017

- 5 Representatives of the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and the Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital Defence Committee were welcomed and invited to present relevant information and evidence regarding the suitability of the proposed health provision for the residents of Blaenau Ffestiniog area.
- 6 The Health Board and Defence Committee were thanked for their presentations.
- 7 Members of the Care Scrutiny Committee agreed on six recommendations but that the precise wording of the recommendations would be presented for the final agreement of the Care Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 21 September 2017.

Care Extraordinary Committee Meeting – 21 September 2017

- 8 A report was submitted to confirm the final wording of the recommendations to be presented to the Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Well-being and the Chief Executive of the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board for action.
- 9 There was a difference of opinion amongst Members regarding the wording of clause (ii) of the recommendations and it was proposed and seconded to delete the words 'reasonable time' and amend as follows:
 - 10 "that the Committee requests a report immediately on the health provision in the Blaenau Ffestiniog area by an independent agency, to be presented for the attention of the Care Scrutiny Committee.
 - 11 That the Scrutiny Committee calls upon the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board to regularly monitor information and data in relation to the effectiveness of current health services in the Blaenau Ffestiniog area and the well-being of its residents and to commit to adapting/changing the provision if there is evidence to justify this.
 - 12 It was confirmed that the wording of the remaining recommendations (i), (iii), (iv) (v) and (vi) were acceptable.
 - 13 In terms of providing an independent report as suggested above, it was noted that the Council would be able to suggest the names of external independent consultants to undertake the work.

- 14 It was noted that the Community Health Council were not pleased that they had not received an invitation to be represented in the discussion at the Extraordinary Care Scrutiny Committee.
- 15 It was decided to present the enclosed final recommendations (**Appendix A**), to the Adults, Health & Wellbeing Cabinet Member and the Chief Executive of the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board.

Care Scrutiny Committee Meeting – 30 January 2018 (today)

- 16 Here is presented in **Appendix A** the responses of the Adult, Health & Wellbeing Cabinet Member and the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board to the recommendations.

Welsh Government Assembly Petitions Committee

- 17 Welsh Government Assembly Petitions Committee to the Care Scrutiny Committee Chair on 19 January 2018 and the Report of the Petitions Committee dated 22 January 2018. (**Appendices B and C**)
- 18 **Members of the Care Scrutiny Committee are requested to:**
 - A) **Consider the responses**
 - B) **Decide on the next steps**