


<p>Informal Advice</p> <p>Swansea Bay Maternity Families</p> <p>25 October 2024</p>	 <p>Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government</p>
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Issue

Two letters have been received, requesting meetings with the Cabinet Secretary to discuss concerns with the Independent Review related to Swansea Bay University Health Board's maternity and neonatal services. They both also request that Welsh Government intervene in the Review.

A third letter has this week been sent to Judith Paget, on behalf of 32 families also requesting a meeting.

Discussions took place with the Chair of the health board and the Cabinet Secretary on the 9 October and the Chair agreed to make contact with the families to agree a resolution.

Feedback and a comprehensive update has now been received from the chair of the health board (attached).

Advice

As set out in the update from the chair, there are several separate attempts from different stakeholders to engage with the family currently. The health board are making concerted efforts to engage with the family through mediation. As they are engaging with mediation currently, the chair is fulfilling the action to meet with the family. The chair and engagement lead of the independent review (IR) are also engaging with the family and families. The chair of the IR has asked the family to re-consider engaging. This is an independent review, and it may confuse matters to also meet at this point.

The health board have written to the family regarding the outcome of their personal case review and care should be taken to give the family space to process this information. It is also important not to mix or confuse the two situations.

The health board have given us clear assurances that the IR is on track and will deliver and confirmed yesterday that the clinical reviews have commenced, the feedback on the first tranche of reviews will take place on 11 November 2024 (approx. 30 cases). All remaining letters will have been sent by the end of October (approx. 120). The self-referral process is open but there have been no referrals made yet. Awareness raising is now underway. Engagement with Llais continues. Two reports will go to the November Board meeting, one covering the governance review and the second incorporating the work Llais have been undertaking.

The review is progressing and there seems to be a more positive news coming from the health board. Advice from officials is to **not** meet with the families at this point.