

Bay Watch

6 July 2009



About Bay Watch

Bay Watch is a weekly political briefing for Welsh NHS Confederation members that is focused on health issues and policies being discussed and debated in the National Assembly for Wales.

If you have any queries about this publication, please contact jonathan.davies@welshconfed.org

Last week at the Assembly

Questions to the First Minister

Andrew R.T. Davies AM (Con - South Wales Central) received a written response to his question asking the First Minister to make a statement on proposals to improve hospital experiences for NHS patients.

The First Minister - Rhodri Morgan AM (Lab - Cardiff West) responded that: *"the Assembly Government has taken a series of steps to improve the hospital experience for NHS patients in Wales. Among the measures most appreciated by patients and their families has been the decision to abolish car parking charges at Welsh hospitals, as set out in the 'One Wales' agreement."*

Jonathan Morgan AM (Con - Cardiff North) asked if the First Minister would outline all measures taken by the Welsh Assembly Government to improve public health?

The First Minister responded by saying *"This year promises to be an important year for public health in Wales as this Government delivers Wales's first public health framework, 'Our Healthy Future', and a new integrated public health organisation, Public Health Wales. These new developments will guide our public health interventions throughout the term of this Assembly"*

Read the answers to other questions not reached in plenary here:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-rop.htm?act=dis&id=135520&ds=7/2009>

For answers to questions answered in the chamber click here:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-rop.htm?act=dis&id=135539&ds=7/2009#1>

Questions to the Minister for Health & Social Services

The Minister for Health & Social Services - Edwina Hart AM (Lab - Gower) responded to questions on the following subjects:

- Ambulance waiting times
- Stroke services
- Royal Gwent Hospital
- Mental Health Services
- Epilepsy
- Free prescriptions
- NHS restructuring

Read the full list of questions and answers here:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-rop.htm?act=dis&id=135840&ds=7/2009#q>

Statement on Swine Influenza

The Minister for Health & Social Services- Edwina Hart AM (Lab - Gower) made a statement to Assembly Members on the influenza A(H1N1) swine flu outbreak and the latest developments in Wales, across the UK and internationally.

Read the full statement here:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-rop.htm?act=dis&id=135840&ds=7/2009#datganffliw>

Welsh Conservatives Debate - IVF Treatment

Andrew R.T. Davies AM (Con - South Wales Central) moved the motion that called on the Welsh Assembly Government to:

- a) address patients' concerns over IVF treatment in Wales;
- b) work towards implementing NICE guidance in respect of IVF treatment cycles.

Read the full debate here:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-rop.htm?act=dis&id=135840&ds=7/2009#dadlceids>

Legislative Statement: The Proposed Social Care Charges (Wales) Measure

The Deputy Minister for Health & Social Services - Gwenda Thomas AM (Lab - Neath) made a statement on proposed changes to the charging arrangements for non-residential social services, including homecare, day care, transport to day care and meals.

Read the full statement here:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-rop.htm?act=dis&id=135539&ds=7/2009#3>

Stage 1 Debate on General Principles of the Proposed Children and Families (Wales) Measure

The proposed Assembly Measure lays out the Government's vision for children and young people. The Government hope that the measure will enable them to provide support to those families and children in greatest need who, without additional support, would continue to be the most disadvantaged.

Read the full debate here:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-rop.htm?act=dis&id=135539&ds=7/2009#5>

Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee

The committee continued to take evidence in its inquiry on the implementation of equal pay in Local Government.

Read the meeting papers here:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-committees/bus-committees-third1/bus-committees-third-hwlg-home/bus-committees-third-hwlg-agendas.htm>

This week at the Assembly

First Minister's Questions

The First Minister - Rhodri Morgan AM (Lab - Cardiff West) will be asked by Andrew RT Davies AM (South Wales Central) about his plans to next meet the Health Minister to discuss the future of the NHS in Wales.

Huw Lewis AM (Lab - Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney) will ask the First Minister to outline how the Welsh Assembly Government is improving access to GP surgeries.

Read the full list of questions here:
[http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/
bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-oral.
htm?act=dis&id=134319&ds=7/2009](http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-oral.htm?act=dis&id=134319&ds=7/2009)

New survey shows that Welsh patients are happy with their GPs

[http://new.wales.gov.uk/news/topic/health/2009/09
0630gpsurvey/?lang=en](http://new.wales.gov.uk/news/topic/health/2009/090630gpsurvey/?lang=en)

Questions to the Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery

Ann Jones AM (Lab - Vale of Clwyd) will ask the Minister to provide an update on Local Service Boards.

Read the full list of questions and answers here:
[http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/
bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-oral.
htm?act=dis&id=134463&ds=7/2009](http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-oral.htm?act=dis&id=134463&ds=7/2009)

Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee

The committee will take evidence in its inquiry into The use and regulation of sunbeds in Wales

Read the meeting papers here:
[http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/
bus-committees/bus-committees-third1/bus-
committees-third-hwlg-home/bus-committees-third-
hwlg-agendas.htm?act=dis&id=135867&ds=7/2009](http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-committees/bus-committees-third1/bus-committees-third-hwlg-home/bus-committees-third-hwlg-agendas.htm?act=dis&id=135867&ds=7/2009)

Press releases issued

Health Minister officially opens Ysbyty Alltwen in Porthmadog

[http://new.wales.gov.uk/news/topic/health/2009/09
0702ysbytyalltwen/?lang=en](http://new.wales.gov.uk/news/topic/health/2009/090702ysbytyalltwen/?lang=en)

Deputy Minister announces mandatory registration of adult care home managers in Wales

[http://new.wales.gov.uk/news/topic/health/2009/09
0701carehomes/?lang=en](http://new.wales.gov.uk/news/topic/health/2009/090701carehomes/?lang=en)

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About the Welsh NHS Confederation

The Welsh NHS Confederation represents the organisations making up the NHS in Wales: trusts and local health boards. We act as an independent voice in the drive for better health and better healthcare through our policy and influencing work, and by supporting members with events, information and training. To find out more about us go to -

www.welshconfed.org