

# Bay Watch

16 March 2010



## 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.

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## This Week at the Assembly

### Tuesday

#### Equality of Opportunity Committee

The committee will hold a private session during which they will discuss the draft report of their inquiry into discrimination against people with HIV by healthcare professionals.

#### Plenary

The First Minister will be asked to comment on how the new LHBs will link in with spatial plan areas, the use of illegal substances, reform of the Ambulance Service and the performance of the Cardiff and Vale University LHB.

AMs will debate the supplementary budget, which has allocated an additional £87m to Health and Social Services to address non recurrent pressures on NHS organisations and meet the costs of Swine Flu. A research paper from the Members' Research Service is available [here](#).

### Wednesday

#### Proposed Carers' Strategy for Wales

The committee will hear evidence from the Older People's Commissioner, the Association of Directors of Social Services Cymru, and Young Carers.

#### Children and Young People Committee

The committee will continue its scrutiny of child and adolescent mental health services, hearing evidence from

the vice-chair of Hywel Dda LHB, Janet Hawes, and vice-chair of Aneurin Bevan LHB, Sue Kent.

### Thursday

#### Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee

The committee will continue its inquiry into neonatal services, hearing evidence from the following Local Health Board representatives:

- Vicki Franklin, Director of Nursing, ABM
- Carol Shillabeer, Director of Nursing, Powys

The committee will also hear evidence from:

- The Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust
- British Association of Perinatal Medicine
- The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists

For more information on any of the items above, please see this week's Business Notice:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-business-notice.htm>

## Last Week at the Assembly

### First Minister's Questions

The Minister for Business and Budget, Jane Hutt, took questions in place of the First Minister.

*Youth drinking culture*

The Minister said that the issue is being addressed not only through strategies, but with funding. The new school-based counselling strategy aims to reach young people when they are at the most vulnerable times in their lives, and the government is also working with the media to raise awareness of alcohol misuse among drinkers.

*Public health*

The Minister emphasised that the public health agenda must be cross-cutting, so that Ministers across the whole Cabinet take responsibility for promoting health and wellbeing.

[590&ds=3/2010#3](#)

Betsi Cadwaladr University LHB partnership working with Lesotho  
<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-written.htm?act=dis&id=170579&ds=3/2010#3>

**Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee**

The committee continued its inquiry into neonatal services, hearing evidence from Bliss, the Expert Group on Neonatal Services, and the RCN. The transcript of the session is not yet available, but further updates will be published in future editions of Bay Watch.

**Written questions round-up**

The Minister for Health and Social Services issued written answers to questions on the following topics:

Community services incidents, improving osteoporosis and fracture services in mid and west Wales

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-written.htm?act=dis&id=170611&ds=3/2010#3>

Bowel cancer screening targets, tackling childhood obesity, performance indicators for Health Challenge Wales, GP training schemes

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-written.htm?act=dis&id=170604&ds=3/2010>

Removal of asbestos from NHS buildings

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-written.htm?act=dis&id=170>

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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](http://www.welshconfed.org)