

Bay Watch

15 June 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.

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

This Week at the Assembly

Tuesday

Plenary

The First Minister will be asked to comment on his priorities for public services, hours of availability of GP services, the efficiency of the health service and residential care home workforce development.

Thursday

Mental Health (Wales) Measure Committee

The committee will meet in private.

Finance committee

The committee will discuss the financial implications of the proposed Mental Health (Wales) Measure, with evidence from the Minister for Health and Social Services. The Minister will also give evidence on the allocation of capital funds.

This week's Business Notice is available to download here:

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

Last Week at the Assembly

Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee

The committee held a general scrutiny session for the Minister for Health and Social Services. Among the topics discussed were:

- Recruitment to fulfil the One Wales school nurses commitment
- Protecting time for training and professional development of frontline staff
- Increasing prosecution rates for violence and aggression against NHS staff
- How the NHS will manage through the downturn
- Investment in capital expenditure, including the CRI and Whitchurch Hospital
- Progress of the Eating Disorders Framework
- Progress of the Chronic Conditions Management programme
- Sunbed legislation
- Use of the independent sector
- Performance of the ambulance service
- Communicating government policy decisions to frontline service

The draft transcript of the session is available here:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-committees/bus-committees-scrutiny-committees/bus-committees-third-hwlg->

[home/bus-committees-third-hwlg-agendas.htm?act=dis&id=186211&ds=6/2010](http://www.assemblywales.org/home/bus-committees-third-hwlg-agendas.htm?act=dis&id=186211&ds=6/2010)

First Minister's Questions

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

Respite care

The government has commissioned an independent review into the capacity of respite provision for carers across Wales.

Cancer services

The cancer services co-ordinating group's report on performance against the national cancer standards shows that "improvements are needed in some quarters".

Read the session in full here:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-rop.htm?act=dis&id=186289&ds=6/2010#2>

Autism services

The Deputy Minister for Social Services, Gwenda Thomas, gave a statement on autism services, in which she updated AMs on the implementation of key actions contained in the autistic spectrum disorder strategic action plan for Wales.

Read the statement in full here:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-chamber/bus-chamber-third-assembly-rop.htm?act=dis&id=185344&ds=6/2010#datautism>

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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