



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Betsi Cadwaladr
University Health Board

Bloc 5, Llys Carlton, Parc Busnes Llanelwy,
Llanelwy, LL17 0JG

Block 5, Carlton Court, St Asaph Business
Park, St Asaph, LL17 0JG

John Gittins
HM Senior Coroner
North Wales (East and Central)
Coroner's Office
County Hall
Wynnstay Road
Ruthin LL15 1YN

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dyddiad / Date: 06 February 2024

Dear Mr Gittins,

**REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS
Catherine Lisa Jones**

I am writing in response to the Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Future Deaths dated 12 December 2023, issued by yourself to Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, following the inquest touching upon the death of Catherine Jones.

I would like to begin with offering my deepest condolences to Ms Jones' husband, family and loves ones. I also apologise unreservedly, on behalf of the Health Board, for the failings you identified in Mrs Jones' care leading to her death in 2016.

In the notice you highlighted your concerns that there may be a lack of cohesive care and treatment for patients undergoing surgery as a result of pooled surgical lists.

Upon receiving the notice I asked my deputy executive medical director, [REDACTED] to review and assess practice across the Health Board. This work has been completed and has identified the need to develop a clear and consistent policy for the entire organisation.

Therefore, [REDACTED] will be leading a task group to develop this policy which will involve all of our Integrated Health Communities and the relevant Regional Specialist Services.

The group will meet monthly, starting in February 2024, and the work is estimated to be completed within six months.

The new policy will be approved at the Planned Care Board to ensure operational and clinical ownership. This group will also oversee the progress of the task group.

Implementation of this new policy will then be led by the medical directors for our divisions and reported back into the group.

This new policy will achieve the aim of standardised practice across the Health Board.



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Whilst we develop this new policy, to mitigate the risks, your notice has been shared with all our Integrated Health Communities and the relevant Regional Specialist Services so that local learning can be applied.

I hope this letter offers you assurance on the action we will now take to ensure the concerns you raised are addressed and that changes are made to our clinical services.

Once again, I offer my deepest condolences to the family and friends of Ms Jones for their loss.

Yours sincerely



**Cyfarwyddwr Meddygol Gweithredol / Dirprwy Prif Weithredwr Dros Dro
Executive Medical Director / Acting Deputy Chief Executive**

cc [REDACTED], Deputy Executive Medical Director
[REDACTED], Deputy Director for Quality Governance