

# RadcliffesLeBrasseur



## Healthcare Briefing

November 2009

### Welsh Update - Restructuring Healthcare in Wales

The restructuring of health services in Wales continued on 1st October 2009 as the new Health Boards (HBs) became fully operational. The 22 "old" Local Health Boards ceased to exist, as did 7 of the previous 9 NHS Trusts in Wales. Those organisations were replaced with 7 new Health Boards which are responsible for services across the continuum of primary, secondary, tertiary, community and specialist services. The Welsh Assembly Government's aim has been to end the internal market in the NHS in Wales by having *single* organisations delivering all healthcare services in seven regions, meaning a more "joined-up" approach to healthcare delivery. This contrasts sharply with the structure of the NHS in England, where there remains a traditional distinction between primary and secondary care provision.

The new HBs have existed in shadow form since June of this year, however as of 1st October all rights, responsibilities and liabilities previously vested in the old LHBs and the corresponding NHS trusts transferred to the new organisations. An organisational minefield awaits. These new super-structures will need to be robust enough be able to cope with the administration, regulation and monitoring of a wide range of healthcare services, and to address the overlapping (sometimes conflicting?) demands of service providers within the different sectors.

As of 1st October, NHS Wales therefore has the following structure:



#### Health Boards

- (1) Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University HB
- (2) Aneurin Bevan HB
- (3) Betsi Cadwaladr University HB
- (4) Cardiff and Vale University HB
- (5) Cwm Taf HB
- (6) Hywel Dda HB
- (7) Powys Teaching HB

#### NHS Trusts

- (8) Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust
  - (9) Velindre NHS Trust
- Public Health Wales NHS Trust

The practical effect for healthcare professionals on the ground remains to be seen. At the very least, a new structure means a new set of faces in senior management. We outline some key names below:

### **Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University HB**

(Covering Swansea, Neath & Bridgend)

Chief Executive: **Mr David Sissling**  
Chair: **Mr Win Griffiths**  
Vice-Chair: **Dr Edward Roberts**  
Medical Director: **Dr Bruce Ferguson**

### **Aneurin Bevan HB**

(Covering Gwent & Monmouthshire)

Chief Executive: **Dr Andrew Goodall**  
Chair: **Mr David Jenkins**  
Vice-Chair: **Miss Susan Kent**  
Medical Director: **Dr Grant Robinson**

### **Betsi Cadwaladr University HB**

(Covering North Wales)

Chief Executive: **Mrs Mary Burrows**  
Chair: **Mr Michael Williams**  
Vice-Chair: **Dr Lyndon Miles**  
Medical Director: **Dr Mark Scriven**

### **Cardiff and Vale University HB**

(Covering Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan)

Chief Executive: **Mrs Jan Williams**  
Chair: **Mr David Francis**  
Vice-Chair: **Mrs Mutale Merrill**  
Medical Director: **Dr Chris Jones**

### **Cwm Taf HB**

(Covering Merthyr Tydfil & Rhondda Cynon Taf)

Chief Executive: **Mrs Margaret Foster**  
Chair: **Dr Christopher Jones**  
Vice-Chair: **Dr Vivienne Harpwood**  
Medical Director: **Dr Shona Sullivan**

### **Hywel Dda HB**

(Covering Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion & Pembrokeshire)

Chief Executive: **Mr Trevor Purt**  
Chair: **Mr Chris Martin**  
Vice-Chair: **Mrs Janet Hawes**  
Medical Director: **Dr Sue Fish**

### **Powys Teaching HB**

(Covering Mid Wales & the Borders)

Chief Executive: **Mr Andrew Cottom**  
Chair: **Mr Chris Mann**  
Vice-Chair: **Ms Jo Mussen**  
Medical Director: **Dr Brendan Lloyd**

It remains to be seen how these large bodies will deal with the management of their respective Performers Lists, for example. Our experience so far suggests that more localised arrangements will be put in place, however it may be a case of "wait and see" while new channels of communication are founded and specific roles and responsibilities within the new organisations are clarified.

RadcliffesLeBrasseur provide specialist advice in relation to healthcare law as applicable in Wales. For more information please contact Jane Lang on 02920 343035 or [jane.lang@rlb-law.com](mailto:jane.lang@rlb-law.com).

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