



Eich cyf/Your ref: WAQ79198

Helen Mary Jones AM
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

7 January 2020

Dear Helen,

I'm writing in response to WAQ79198 regarding an update about Swansea Bay University Health Board's plans to ensure elective orthopaedic surgery can recommence at Morriston Hospital following the recent delays due to a high level of unscheduled care admissions.

Whilst the Health Board continues to experience high levels of unscheduled care pressures, I can confirm that the Health Board has now recommenced orthopaedic surgery at Morriston Hospital following the ring-fencing of 10 beds on Clydach ward at the beginning of November. The Health Board has been carrying out between 28 and 36 operations each week, with two thirds of those being treated long-waiting patients. The Health Board continues to work to try and open a further seven beds and I expect to see orthopaedic waiting times reduce over the remainder of the year.

Yours sincerely,

Vaughan Gething AC/AM
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services

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We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.