

Eluned Morgan AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref : WQ85302

Mark Isherwood
Member of the Senedd for North Wales
Welsh Parliament
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10 June 2022

Dear Mark,

Thank you for your recent Written Questions asking me when will NHS Wales return elective orthopaedic activity to pre-pandemic levels.

Activity levels across NHS Wales are increasing in all specialities.

In March 2022, management information suggests the amount of orthopaedic inpatient / daycase activity (1,672 procedures) was more than double the level it was in March 2021 (747 procedures) and was at a similar level to March 2020 (1,669 procedures). Activity levels have been gradually increasing over recent months.

Health Boards have initiated several directives to clearing the backlog and increasing activity through ensuring additional facilities are being used, including the repurposing of Neath Port Talbot Hospital in Swansea Bay to deliver more orthopaedic activity, additional units being utilised in Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr in Aneurin Bevan, Abergele Hospital in North Wales and in Cwm Taf Morgannwg, the health board is developing the Royal Glamorgan Hospital as a surgical hub, which will provide protected beds for their inpatient work.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. E. Morgan'.

Eluned Morgan AS/MS
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Minister for Health and Social Services