



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Abertawe Bro Morgannwg
University Health Board

Discussion Document

PROPOSED RELOCATION OF BRITON FERRY HEALTH CENTRE TO A NEW PRIMARY HEALTHCARE CENTRE ON THE QUAYS, BRITON FERRY

**ABM University Health Board
Briton Ferry GPs**



March 2012

1) Introduction

Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board is continually reviewing the way we provide services to our patients, to ensure we offer the highest quality and safest services we can, within the resources we have available.

This discussion document is part of that on-going process. It outlines the proposal of ABM University Health Board and the Briton Ferry General Practitioners to replace the existing Briton Ferry Health Centre with a brand new, purpose-built, modern Primary Care Centre.

It is planned to transfer GP services to the new primary Care Centre and also provide some new services, which will improve the level of patient care offered in the area. We want your views and are therefore engaging with the public over these proposals from 19th March to 27th April 2012.

We will be discussing these plans, and your views on them, with ABM Community Health Council before deciding how best to take primary care services forward in the Briton Ferry area.

2) Why do we need a new building?



The current Health Centre was built in 1977 and was originally designed to provide health services for 8,000 patients. Thirty-five years on and there are now double this number of patients registered with the two practices. Over that time the types of services GP provide have also changed considerably.

The building is now too small, not designed for modern healthcare needs, and is not able to cater for the extra demand.

The building cannot be adequately modernised or expanded to develop healthcare services which meet the standards and accessibility we expect; and that patients are entitled to receive.

We want to provide new, modern, fit for purpose premises which can provide a wider range of high quality services for patients in Briton Ferry.

3) What does this mean for patients?

Discussions about how the best quality primary care (GP) services for patients now and in the future should be provided in Briton Ferry have been ongoing for a number of years. We believe that the best solution is for a sustainable and modern service for our patients to be provided in high quality facilities.

If the new development at Briton Ferry goes ahead, it will take into account:

- The healthcare needs of all patients in the area
- The importance of delivering the highest standard of care in a comfortable, modern and safe environment; which is fit for purpose
- Offering patients faster and more accessible healthcare services closer to their own home
- The access requirements of all patients, particularly the elderly, disabled and those with young children
- The number of patients accessing the practices both now and in the future
- The dignity, privacy and confidentiality of all patients when talking to doctors, nurses and other healthcare staff
- Parking and drop-off facilities needed by patients
- The effective and efficient use of resources including space, equipment and staff

4) Where will the new surgery be built?

The proposal is for the new Primary Care Centre to be built on The Quays. The site is next door to the Neath Port Talbot Council Offices and will be part of a new development which will also provide a range of other services including:

- ❖ A Pharmacy
- ❖ A Nursery
- ❖ Office Accommodation to allow new businesses to move into the area

5) Why is it being built on this site?

For the past 8 years, the two practices and the Health Board have been trying to find a site which would be suitable for the new surgery. Available land which is large enough to accommodate the new building and the required car parking has been very difficult to find.

However, by working closely with Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and becoming part of the new development on The Quays, we can now build the new centre with the range of facilities required; in the near future.

6) What about parking and transport?

There will be a designated car park for patients visiting the Primary Care Centre which will also include accessible/disabled parking spaces, and drop off facilities.

There is also a bus stop on the main road adjacent to the new centre with a footpath directly to the building. The X4 bus service operates from Neath/Port Talbot to Bridgend on an hourly basis.

It operates from Briton Ferry Lodge Cross, starting at 0813 arriving at the Quays at 0819, and then hourly throughout the day with the last journey departing Lodge Cross at 1713. We are also working with First Cymru to discuss the possibility of increasing the frequency of this service.

7) Are there plans I can see of the proposed Centre?

Yes. We are currently making preparations to hold an Information Day where you will be able to look at the plans which have been drawn up for the new Primary Care Centre and the whole development.

You will also be able to speak to members of the Practices, Health Board staff and the development team. In addition, in the past few years a number of purpose-built Primary Care Centres have already been built, or are being built, in the ABM University Health Board area.

Here are some examples (not exhaustive) of other new centres in the area to give you a flavor of the types of developments which patients in other parts of the Health Board area now have access to, or will shortly be using:

Port Talbot Resource Centre



Clydach Health Centre



Dulais Primary Care Centre



New SA1 'Beacon' Primary Care Centre (currently under construction)



The Information Day for the proposed Briton Ferry Health Centre has been arranged for 11th April at Briton Ferry Community Centre and will run from 11.00 am – 7.00 pm so that as many people as possible are able to attend and have their questions answered.

Posters will be displayed in the surgery and other community and public places in the Briton Ferry area closer to the date as a reminder. We will make a record of all the comments / views from patients and other interested parties and ensure these are taken into account before any plans are finalised.

Please let us know your views

You can let us know what you think about these proposals by:

- Attending the Information Day detailed above
- Completing the patient questionnaire we will make available in the waiting areas in both Dr Lethbridge and Dr Muir's practices
- Emailing us at Sendusyourviews.abm@wales.nhs.uk with the title "Briton Ferry"
- Writing to:

**Hilary Dover
Locality Director
ABMU Health Board
Neath Port Talbot Locality
Suite A
Britannic House
Llandarcy
Neath SA10 6JQ**

We will ensure all the comments made are taken into account in considering how best to take forward primary care services for the Briton Ferry area.