


<p style="text-align: center;">Informal Advice</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Swansea Bay Maternity Families</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11 October 2024</p>	 <p>Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government</p>
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Issue

Two letters have been received, requesting meetings with the Cabinet Secretary to discuss concerns with the Independent Review related to Swansea Bay University Health Board's maternity and neonatal services. They both also request that Welsh Government intervene in the Review.

Discussions have taken place with the Chair of the health board and they have agreed to make contact with the families to agree a resolution. Feedback from this meeting has yet to be received (neither has a date been confirmed). Officials will request an update as to when it will take place.

Options

Officials consider that there are the following options:

1. The discussion with the Chair and the families goes well and agreement is made to incorporate the two engagement pieces together.

In this instance, then a positive response to the families is made recognising that an agreed way forward has been made and welcoming this closer collaboration.

2. The Chair and the families are unable to agree a way forward.

In this instance there are three potential options:

- 2a The Cabinet Secretary offers to meet both families separately and they are offered a 30/60 minute private meeting to explore their concerns and seek to encourage them to engage with the review
- 2b. The Cabinet Secretary offers to meet the two families together to explore their concerns and seek to encourage them to engage with the health board review.
- 2c. We arrange for formal advocacy support for both families. Invite all families to a meeting to work through the issues and come to solutions (supported by an external and independent individual) – this could be done with or without Swansea Bay UHB but using the engagement lead on the review team. This option holds the potential risk that Welsh Ministers are becoming too involved in a health board commissioned review.