

Trefeglwys Community Council
Contact email: Community Council Clerk - trefeglwyscc@hotmail.co.uk

2nd September 2026

**Chief Executive
Powys Teaching Health Board
Glasbury House
Bronllys Hospital
Bronllys
Brecon
Powys, LD3 0LY**

RE: Formal Objection to Proposals to Remove Inpatient Beds from Llanidloes and District War Memorial Hospital

Dear Chief Executive,

I am writing on behalf of Trefeglwys Community Council to formally reject the leaked proposals from Powys Teaching Health Board that would see inpatient beds completely removed from Llanidloes and District War Memorial Hospital. Our council, alongside the hundreds of residents who recently packed the Llanidloes Community Centre in protest, strongly oppose this severe reduction in rural healthcare.

Following the implementation of the controversial "Ready To Go Home" designation, this new proposal to strip inpatient beds down to just two hubs in Powys represents a devastating downgrade. We urge the health board to withdraw these options based on the following critical factors:

- **Unacceptable Travel Barriers:** Centralising inpatient care to Newtown or Brecon isolates patients from their support networks. Public transport across mid-Wales is heavily restricted, making regular visits to alternative hospitals impossible for elderly relatives and low-income families without cars.
- **Destruction of Local Step-Down Care:** Welsh Government advocates more care in the Community. Llanidloes Hospital provides vital rehabilitation, palliative care and respite beds, these services are vital for the wellbeing of Carers in the community. Removing these beds will lead to increased delayed transfers of care in major acute hospitals outside Powys, placing additional strain on an already failing system.
- **Disproportionate Impact on Our Community:** Llanidloes and the surrounding areas have a high percentage of older adults who rely on local, face-to-face medical attention. Removing beds ignores the distinct geographical challenges of our rural landscape. In addition, any job losses would have a serious impact on the local economy.

- **Complete Lack of Public Trust:** The absence of Health Board representatives at our recent community meeting has caused widespread anger. A strategy developed behind closed doors that cuts county-wide community beds from 160 to just 60 cannot be considered a legitimate consultation. In addition we would like to know what the long-term plans are for the Maternity Unit? Are Outpatient clinics to be expanded?

The Llanidloes and District War Memorial Hospital was built by the community as a lasting tribute to those who served. Thousands of pounds have been raised over the years to enhance facilities including the building of the Penrallt Day care Unit, Physiotherapy Department block and the Palliative Care Suite. We will not stand by and watch its medical purpose be dismantled.

We respectfully request that Powys Teaching Health Board immediately pause this process to engage in a genuine, transparent consultation with local councils, GPs at Arwystli Medical Practice and the public.

Yours sincerely,

David Ashton

Cllr David Ashton
Chair

On behalf of :
Trefeglwys Community Council