

WELSH HEALTH CIRCULAR



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Parc Cathays
Caerdydd CF10 3NQ

Cathays Park
Cardiff, CF10 3NQ

Issue Date: 3 March 2008

Status: Action

Title: Reform of Car Parking in NHS Hospitals

For Action by: Chief Executives, NHS
Trusts and Powys Local Health Board

Action required: Para's 3-6

For Information to: See attached list

Sender: Andrew Walker, Head, Capital, Estates & Facilities Division, Resource
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Welsh Assembly Government contact: Helen Field, Estates & Facilities Branch,
Resource Directorate, Department for Health and Social Services, Welsh Assembly
Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ. Tel: 029 2080 1056

Enclosure(s):

Dear Colleague

Summary

1. The purpose of this circular is to notify NHS Trusts and Powys LHB of the new arrangements for car parking.

Background

2. The "One Wales" agreement between the Labour Party and Plaid Cymru gave an undertaking to reform charges for hospital parking. This WHC sets out the new procedures that are to be undertaken within the NHS in Wales concerning car parking charges and the management of car parking across the NHS in Wales.

Action

3. From 1st April 2008, free car parking is to be provided at all NHS Hospital sites for patients, staff and visitors (except those sites where external contracts are in place).
4. Where there are external contracts in place they should be allowed to run their course, they should not however be renewed or extended. When contracts expire services must be brought back in-house and all parking provided free of charge to patients, staff and visitors. These Trusts are required to develop and fund schemes, for implementation by 1 June 2008, to reduce costs for patients, staff and visitors until the contracts expire or are ended.

Action Plans

5. All Trusts will submit by 1st May 2008 an action plan, to Christopher Morgan, Estates & Facilities Branch, detailing how they will deal with the following issues:
 - Ensuring ongoing funding to meet the costs of security, lighting, CCTV and maintenance of car parking;
 - The possibility of an increase in demand and how this will be handled;
 - Measures to promote car drivers to use more environmentally friendly forms of transport; and
 - Measures to identify (and where necessary control) the possible utilisation of spaces by commuters or nearby residents reducing capacity for patients, visitors and staff (fly-parking)
6. Additionally for those Trusts with external contracts details of the schemes to reduce charges as mentioned in para 4 above should be included in their Action Plans.

Further information

7. Action plans will be assessed and then sent to the Minister for Health and Social Services for her approval.
8. Any queries regarding this circular should be directed to Helen Field, Estates & Facilities Branch, Resource Directorate, Welsh Assembly Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ.

Andrew Walker
Head of Capital, Estates and Facilities
Resources Directorate, DHSS

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