

Radiotherapy Services for South East Wales and the development of a Radiotherapy Satellite Centre

Radiotherapy is the use of radiation (X-Rays) to treat cancer and approximately half of all cancer patients will receive radiotherapy as part of their cancer treatment. However, the number of people in Wales who will be diagnosed with cancer is expected to grow by more than 2% each year and these patients will require treatment.

This engagement process is seeking views from the public on the proposal to locate a Radiotherapy Satellite Centre at Nevill Hall Hospital in Abergavenny in addition to the current Radiotherapy centre located at Velindre Cancer Centre in Cardiff. Velindre University NHS Trust (VUNHST) and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB) are jointly leading this project.

All Health Boards in South East Wales are supportive of the plan and proposal for a Radiotherapy Satellite Centre.

Radiotherapy is currently only provided in Velindre Cancer Centre in Cardiff, where currently 4,600 people are treated. We know from people's feedback that the clinical service provided by Velindre Cancer Centre is considered excellent but that travelling for radiotherapy treatment can be challenging and stressful.

Both centres will provide a range of radiotherapy treatments. The Satellite centre will start with treating prostate, breast and palliative care patients. In the future the plan is to treat other types of cancers there too.

The satellite centre will benefit all patients receiving radiotherapy treatment across South East Wales as it will provide more facilities to treat patients. Patients who live in Powys, north Aneurin Bevan and north Cwm Taf Morgannwg areas will benefit from significantly reduced travel times.

It is anticipated the satellite centre will each year have approximately:

- 3,000 appointments for treatment planning
- 1,000 new patients starting radiotherapy
- 9,500 attendances for treatment

It is anticipated the Radiotherapy Satellite Centre will open in 2023/24.

In summary, we believe a Radiotherapy Satellite Centre is required to provide care closer to home which will result in:

- improved access to radiotherapy
- improved patient experience and outcomes
- a better quality of care

- increased number of linacs machines from 8 to 10 machines