

- Additional complaints raised have also included a distinct lack of public awareness and consultation prior to the downgrading of existing sites.

Overall, there seems to be a distinct lack of capacity, with many of the individuals that have spoken to members presenting themselves or family members to the Grange only to be turned away without being seen by a healthcare professional. Therefore, we can agree with the concerns of DR Wales with regard to the premature opening of the facility.

Closing two very in demand accident and emergency centres and replacing them with one unit that has extreme geographical challenges was always predicted to have major issues with capacity, with or without the COVID pandemic. After speaking to a consultant involved in the planning of the GUH, it transpired that this aspect had been brought to the table by senior clinicians.

We are well aware of the issues that A&E centres throughout Wales have during the winter periods as highlighted in the Wales online articles featured below:

BY CAITLIN O'SULLIVAN
17:10, 7 DEC 2017 | UPDATED 07:52, 8 DEC 2017

BY CLAIRE MILLER, MARK SMITH
18:00, 25 NOV 2018 | UPDATED 17:53, 25 NOV 2018

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Ambulances queue outside A&E department at Morryston hospital (Image: Jonathan Myers)

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Ambulances queuing outside the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff (Image: Richard Williams)