

Darren Millar AM was interviewed on BBC Radio Wales on June 3rd 2015 ahead of the afternoon's urgent debate in the Senedd about Tawel Fan ward. **Transcript of interview.**

Q Is today about finding answers?

A The Ockenden report included 30 recommendations, all of which the Health Board say they're taking forward... we must have the opportunity to explore issues around governance, not just in this Health Board but across Wales. There have also been examples of similar care in other parts of Wales – Princess of Wales Hospital and Neath Port Talbot.

Q What has happened since the report was published to make improvements?

A The 30 recommendations are being taken forward... there is discussion at the Health Board.... We've heard a "sorry" but many individuals are still employed by the Health Board... Clinical leaders and managers who didn't step in once made aware of the issues by elected representatives and patients' families should lose their jobs...

Q When?

A It should happen immediately... I want the debate to put pressure on the Health Board to hold people accountable... There is a chain here, not just the front line staff... Right up to Welsh Government officials and ministers.

Q Do you accept any responsibility? It's your patch

A I have been raising concerns about Tawel Fan ward for a number of years.... I was assured by the Health Board that there were no problems on the ward...I'm not the Healthcare Inspectorate who haven't done their jobs properly

Q The system has failed patients... What has been done?

A A number of pieces of work, for example the Public Accounts Committee where we have dragged in senior leaders from Betsi Cadwaladr... I am surprised by your line of questioning.... Over a number of years ... I've been raising concerns... It shouldn't take an independent report to mean action to put things right... I won't stop until issues on the ward and more widely in Wales are addressed.

Q Schools are put in special measures, there's no hesitation there from Welsh Government in education but there seems to be a reluctance in health

A Absolutely. The Inspectorate is part of Welsh Government, different to Estyn... HIW has to ask permission to intervene in a Health Board from Welsh Government... The NHS is a political hot potato so there is pressure on politicians to hold back to due potential embarrassment to the party.

Q When do you want it to happen?

A Yesterday. This is the first time we have had an urgent debate, certainly in the 8 years I have been in the Assembly... it shows the gravity of the situation.

Ends.