

**PE1524/G**

**NHS Dumfries & Galloway  
Response to Consideration of Petition PE1524**

NHS Dumfries & Galloway provides public wifi access in its DGRI acute hospital (including residences), the Galloway Community Hospital, and in its Board headquarters. This utilises the same hardware as provides our corporate and clinical wifi service which is restricted by password.

Capacity is adequate for current usage but is constantly monitored. Firewall security blocks inappropriate material on public and corporate networks.

We are extending this facility to our network of cottage hospitals as the SWAN programme provides improved bandwidth capability in these rural areas. Once again, we will utilise the same hardware that will provide clinical wifi coverage to these locations. The Board has no current plans for wifi provision in its health centres or clinics.

The service has proved popular with patients and visitors with no particular problems encountered. The Board's approach of using the roll out of clinical hardware to facilitate public access ensures an affordable service provision and we would clearly face financial pressure if required to expand public access beyond those areas served by clinical networks.

Jeff Ace  
Chief Executive  
NHS Dumfries & Galloway