

Jayne Bryant MS

Chair, Children, Young People and Education Committee

Jenny Rathbone MS

Chair, Equality and Social Justice Committee

John Griffiths MS

Chair, Local Government and Housing Committee

15 December 2022

Dear Jayne, Jenny and John

Health and Social Care Committee inquiry into mental health inequalities

I enclose for your information an embargoed copy of the Health and Social Care Committee's report *Connecting the dots: tackling mental health inequalities in Wales*. The report is under embargo until 00.01 on Monday 19 December, and I would be grateful if your Committees could treat it in confidence until then.

The issues we have explored throughout the inquiry cut across all of our Committees' portfolios. We hope that the updates and briefings we have shared during our inquiry have been useful in informing your work, and have supplemented the benefits that can arise when Members sit on related committees.¹ We are also grateful to the Children, Young People and Education Committee for inviting us to participate in your discussions with Mind Cymru and young people about the transition between children's and adults' mental health services.

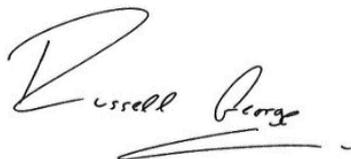
We want people to be at the heart of health and social care, and at the heart of our work. Our approach to this inquiry has reflected that, providing a range of different ways for people with lived experience and expertise to contribute. We are particularly grateful to our online advisory group,

¹ Since July 2022, Sarah Murphy has been a member of both the Health and Social Care Committee and the Equality and Social Justice Committee. Ken Skates, who is a member of both the Children, Young People and Education Committee and the Equality and Social Justice Committee, attended as a substitute for the majority of the oral evidence sessions for the inquiry, as well as participating in discussions about the inquiry key issues and preparation of the report.

which comprises people with different lived experiences, for sharing their views and expertise with us throughout the autumn as we finished taking evidence and prepared our report. A summary of the advisory group's views will be published with our report on Monday.

We intend to seek Business Committee's agreement to schedule a debate on our report in the spring. To ensure that the inquiry continues to benefit from constructive challenge from people with lived experience, before the debate takes place we will ask our advisory group to share with us their views on the Welsh Government's response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Russell George". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

Russell George MS
Chair, Health and Social Care Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.