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Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Buffy Williams MS
Chair
Children, Young People and Education Committee

SeneddChildren@senedd.wales

12 December 2024

Dear Buffy,

I am writing following the conclusion of the IMTP statutory assessment process following the policy leads review in relation to children's health. I apologise for the delay in this response reaching you and the Committee.

While children's health was addressed, it was often in the context of public health, prevention, or children's mental health. Many plans mention a best start in life but lack detail on how this will be achieved. A broader narrative around children's health is often missing, with some health board plans not mentioning the delivery of key programmes such as the Healthy Child Wales Programme.

The NHS Executive has recently appointed a National Clinical Lead for Children's Health. Work is underway to establish the National Clinical Strategic Network for Child Health. We expect health boards to collaborate closely with this network to address any gaps or shortfalls in the delivery of children's health programmes and services. Officials will be working with the Child Health Network to explore options for enhancing children's health, including the development of a quality statement.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Miles AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.