Y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol Health and Social Care Committee

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru National Assembly for Wales

Ann Jones AM Chair, Children, Young People, and Education Committee



17 November 2014

Dear Ann,

Health and Social Care Committee - inquiry into new psychoactive substances ("legal highs")

Further to my letter dated 10 June 2014 regarding the Committee's inquiry into new psychoactive substances, please find below an update on the Committee's work to date.

The Committee received a total of 20 written evidence submissions as part of the inquiry the details of which can be found on our <u>website</u>. The written consultation was held in conjunction with a survey organised by the Outreach team. The Committee received over <u>1,000 responses to the survey</u>, a significant proportion of which were from children and young people.

In October, the Committee undertook external engagement work in Merthyr Tydfil and Wrexham which consisted of site visits and focus groups with service users and providers. The notes from the <u>site visits</u>, and the <u>focus groups</u>, have helped to inform the oral evidence sessions.

Oral evidence sessions with representatives of charities, health boards, local government, the police, and prisons began in November and will culminate in a session with the Minister for Health and Social Services on 26 November 2014.

I hope that this information is useful. I will ensure that a copy of the Committee's report is shared with you when it's published in the new year.

Yours sincerely,

David Rees AM Chair, Health and Social Care Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg / We welcome correspondence in both English and Welsh