

Vaughan Gething AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd, Llesiant a Chwaraeon
Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref VG/01275/17

Mike Hedges AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk

11 June 2017

Dear Mike

Thank you for your letter of 22 May regarding Petition P-05-764 from Megan Tudor on Better Mental Health Services for Adults.

I note the issues raised in the petition in respect of adult mental health services.

Regarding the budget for mental health, spending on mental health in Wales is protected by a ring-fence and we spend more on mental health services than any other part of the NHS. We have increased spending each year since the ring-fence was introduced, including £22 million over the last two years which includes more than £3 million a year for psychological therapies for adults. We have announced an additional £20 million this year, taking the total mental health budget for Wales to £629m, compared to £510 million in 2010-11.

Regarding the need for more community services, with the introduction of the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010 we set targets that 80% of people should have a mental health assessment by a local primary mental health support service (LPMHSS) within 28 days of a referral. We have since seen a fall in mental health waiting times. In December 2016, more than 85% of people were seen for an assessment within 28 days, compared to just over 60% in December 2013. In addition, 77% of therapeutic interventions were started within 28 days following an assessment last December, compared to around 63% in December 2013.

The Welsh Government has also worked closely with other key agencies including the police, ambulance service and the third sector to introduce a Crisis Care Concordat for Wales. The introduction of the Concordat has led to a dramatic fall in the number of people in a mental health crisis being detained in police custody.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400
Gohebiaeth.Vaughan.Gething@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales

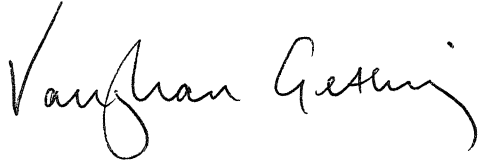
Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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.

Further information on our current priorities for mental health in Wales can be found in the [2016-19 Delivery Plan for *Together for Mental Health*](#), our 10-year mental health strategy for Wales.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'V' and a long, sweeping tail.

Vaughan Gething AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd, Llesiant a Chwaraeon
Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport