

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/01350/17  
Eich cyf/Your ref: P-05-736

David John Rowlands  
Chair - Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

[government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

6 July 2017

Dear David,

I am writing following the letter of 2 June about petition P-05-736 which relates to mental health services and for sending me the additional correspondence from Hafal and Laura Williams. I have noted their comments.

Mental health remains a priority for the Welsh Government. 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 funding for mental health services to £629 million this financial year.

Our current priorities for mental health can be found in the 2016-19 Delivery Plan for *Together for Mental Health*, our 10-year mental health strategy for Wales which was developed following extensive public consultation. The delivery plan includes specific objectives on access to services and outcomes for service users. Hafal and other mental health organisations in Wales, as well as service users are represented on the National Partnership Board which oversees progress against the strategy. I also meet with Hafal and the wider mental health third sector organisations through my regular meetings with the Wales Alliance for Mental Health.

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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.

I hope you will understand I am unable to comment on PIP procedures as the UK Government, through its Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) is responsible for social security benefits and as such is not devolved to the Welsh Government.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'V'.

**Vaughan Gething AC/AM**

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