

Julie James AC/AM  
Arweinydd y Tŷ a'r Prif Chwip  
Leader of the House and Chief Whip



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-798  
Ein cyf/Our ref JJ/05136/17

David John Rowlands AM  
Chair - Petitions committee.  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

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

5 December 2017

Dear David

Thank you for drawing my attention to petition P-05-798 calling for male domestic violence victim support services to be independently run and funded. I have outlined my views below to assist in your formal consideration of this petition.

The Welsh Government is committed to tackling all forms of gender based violence, domestic abuse and sexual violence and to supporting all victims of domestic abuse, regardless of their gender or sexuality.

We acknowledge the disproportionate experience of women and girls of many forms of gender based violence, including violence against women and domestic abuse and sexual violence. However, we recognise that anyone can experience and be affected by these issues. The work to implement the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Act and the National Strategy has always been inclusive and conscious of the experience of men. This experience has been considered specifically as part of the National Training Framework implementation; in "Ask and Act" rollout and as part of forthcoming Communications work.

The Welsh Government does provide funding to projects in Wales providing support services for male victims including the Live Fear Free Helpline and Project Dyn.

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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.

The Welsh Government fully funds the Live Fear Free website and 24 hour helpline. This helpline is gender responsive and includes targeted information specifically for male victims. The Dyn project provides accessible support to all men who experience domestic abuse in Wales regardless of age; gender; race; religion or sexual orientation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Julie James AC/AM**  
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