



Elin Jones AC, Llywydd

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

Elin Jones AM, Presiding Officer

National Assembly for Wales

Dai Lloyd AM
Chair
Health, Social Care and Sport Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

Your ref:
Our ref: EJ/ST

7 February 2019

Dear Dai

Everybody's Business: A report on suicide prevention in Wales

The Commission notes the detailed work undertaken by the Committee in this report. We share the view that it is important to tackle mental health-related stigma and discrimination and we seek to be an exemplar employer through our policies and strategies.

Recommendation 3. We recommend that the Assembly Commission offers suicide prevention training for Assembly Members, Assembly Members Support Staff, Commission staff and contractors. We hope that, as well as equipping Assembly Members and staff to respond appropriately, this will show an example to other employers, and we would urge the Welsh Government to promote suicide prevention training to all of its staff.

The Assembly Commission has signed up to the 'Time to Change' pledge to show the Assembly's commitment to working towards ending the stigma associated with mental health. We have highlighted the huge importance of recognising mental health and raising awareness across the organisation. A Mental Health and Wellbeing workplace network (MINDFUL) exists, and we provide a staff with a mental health toolkit, in partnership with Mind Cymru. Assembly Members and AMSS are able to access suicide intervention training through the Commission's Member Learning and Engagement team and can request support of this nature if

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg / We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English

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there is an immediate need. Examples of the range of training interventions available include:

- Suicide intervention;
- Mental Health First Aid;
- Mental Health Awareness;
- Emotional resilience;
- Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST).

The Assembly Commission accepts the recommendation that relates to its responsibilities and will build on our existing provision to provide more explicit training and support for suicide prevention.

Yours sincerely

Elin Jones AM
Llywydd and Chair of the Assembly Commission