



Ein cyf/Our ref VG/08759/19

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Government.Committee.Business@gov.wales

6 January 2019

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter of 03 December 2019 regarding Petition P-05-859: Provide Child Houses in Wales for victims of child sexual abuse.

The Welsh Government has previously agreed to consider the evaluation of the pilot Child House in London once it is completed. I understand that the Mayor of London Office of Policing and Crime (MOPAC) is undertaking the evaluation but that the final evaluation report is not due until mid-2021. Work being taken forward by NHS Wales under Phase 2 of the work of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre Board includes consideration of a range of child-centred practice models including this particular model. The lead paediatrician for this work has personally visited the London project.

Welsh Government officials have considered the initial evaluation report, published by MOPAC in December 2018. The initial evaluation report concludes, "From an evaluation perspective, there is recognition the design of the Lighthouse has remained consistent from the initial vision and model – again this is positive given what is known around the importance of programme integrity. However, there are some changes and although the Lighthouse is the first opportunity to test the model in a UK setting, it will be important to monitor these. Evaluation reports released across the next two years will enable learning both internally, as a catalyst for improvement, and externally to advance the evidence base." (L.Conroy, et al. MOPAC Evidence and Insight; December 2018)

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

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.

Taking this advice into account, I consider it prudent to await learning from the final evaluation report. At that time, we will also need to consider how best to transfer any learning in the context of differences in the population and geography of Wales. The Lighthouse provides services to children and young people from five densely populated neighbouring London boroughs with good public transport links. In developing therapeutic support services for children who are sexually abused, we must also consider the evidence on the efficacy of other child-centred approaches.

(https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/childhouse_jan19_report.pdf)

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' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'g'.

Vaughan Gething AC/AM

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services