

Eluned Morgan AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref : WQ85856 / WQ85857 / WQ85861

Laura Anne Jones MS
Member of the Senedd for South Wales East

Laura.Jones@senedd.wales

23 August 2022

Dear Laura,

Thank you for your recent Written Questions asking about Welsh Government plans for gender identity services for children and young people.

We are committed to improve the Gender Identity Development pathway (GIDs) and the support available for young people in Wales. We are also fully committed to ensuring that stakeholders in Wales, including young people themselves, will be engaged when we are at a point of developing a service for Wales. In the interim, the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC) continues to work closely with the Cass Review team as we currently commission the service through NHS England. As part of this work, NHS England is also planning an engagement process and Welsh patients will be included as part of that plan. This will ensure that young people are engaged in the development of any future plans.

The WHSSC as the current commissioner of the GID Services are fully engaged with NHS England in the work to take forward the recommendations of the Cass Review. Following the recent announcement that NHS England will cease contracting with the Tavistock and Portman service, the WHSSC is working closely with NHS England to ensure Welsh children and young people have access to the regional centres whilst the development of a clinical model for Wales is explored.

The Welsh pathway for children and young people has always involved an assessment to understand wider holistic needs, for instance any mental health or other need, before referring to the GID service. The extension of a clinical model to better meet holistic needs is supported and will be explored as the new clinical model is developed.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. E. Morgan'.

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