

Vaughan Gething AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ80663

Lynne Neagle MS  
Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

2 July 2020

Dear Lynne,

I'm writing in response to WQ80663: Further to the Minister's letter to me of 19 May 2020 (copied to all Members of the Senedd) how does he intend to involve the National Advisory Group for Suicide and Self-Harm Prevention in the Welsh Government's Covid-19 recovery plan?

Officials continue to meet routinely with the National Advisory Group on Suicide and Self-Harm Prevention and the National Co-ordinator to discuss the current work plan and to consider actions in response to Covid-19.

We also directly commission advice from the NAG and its members where that specialist input is required. For instance, we commissioned the Chair of the NAG to work with other key partners to review youth deaths by suicide and serious incidents of self-harm. This was in response to our concerns of the potential impact of the pandemic and the restrictions on mental health and well-being and I intend to write to the Children, Young People and Education Committee shortly with an update. This work will directly inform our recovery planning with partners.

Officials have also worked closely with the NAG and National Co-ordinator to agree the guidance and themes for the funding that Welsh Government is providing to support regional approaches to the prevention of suicide and self-harm.

Yours sincerely,

**Vaughan Gething AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services

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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.