
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg

National Assembly for Wales
Children, Young People and Education Committee

Vaughan Gething AM
Minister for Health and Social Services, Welsh Government

24 January 2019

Dear Vaughan,

Child and Adolescent Mental Health: in-patient provision

It has come to the Committee's attention that, in light of Healthcare Inspectorate Wales's (HIW) concerns about the safety of in-patient mental health care settings in Wales, significant restrictions are currently in place in relation to the provision of in-patient care for children and young people within Wales.

To enable the Committee to scrutinise the arrangements in place, and establish whether further scrutiny is required, we have written to WHSSC as the body responsible for commissioning specialist Tier 4 CAMHS, to seek further information. I attach a copy of the letter sent and would be grateful if you could outline your understanding in relation to each of the questions posed in that letter.

In addition, we would also welcome clarification from you about the points outlined below:

- We understand that WHSSC, in light of HIW's recent concerns, is no longer able to commission places at the private Regis in-patient facility at Ebbw Vale. We also understand that while HIW has informed English commissioners of its concerns, and of the restrictions now in place for Welsh patients, English commissioners continue to place patients from their areas in this setting. Please can you confirm what discussions, if any, you have had in relation to the care of patients at the Regis Ebbw Vale facility.
- We understand that a number of concerns exist regarding the safety of Wales's two NHS in-patient CAMHS units in Abergele and Tŷ Llidiard, Bridgend. Please can you outline your understanding of these concerns, the advice or direction you have provided to Health Boards in light of HIW's concerns, and the steps you are undertaking to ensure that the situation in both settings is being remedied.



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Given the potential seriousness of the concerns raised, the vulnerability of those patients most likely to require in-patient CAMHS care, and the likely increase this will cause in the placement of children and young people further from their homes, the Committee would be grateful to receive a response to this letter as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynne Neagle".

Lynne Neagle AM
Chair

