Dear Vaughan

Perinatal Mental Health in Wales: follow up scrutiny

Earlier this year we exchanged correspondence relating to our follow-up work on our inquiry into provision of perinatal mental health services in Wales, undertaken in 2017.

In our letter of 16 January 2019, we acknowledged the progress made to date, but raised deep concerns about the continued lack of progress in relation to the establishment of mother and baby unit provision in Wales in particular.

Your response of 7 February 2019 reiterated your offer of providing 6 monthly updates on progress to the Committee, for which we are grateful. You also committed to providing an indication of the milestones you expect to reach, on a six monthly basis, between now and the end of this Assembly. While the Committee was hoping to have this indication as soon as possible, we note your intention to provide it in your first 6-monthly update, due by the beginning of August 2019. We look forward to receiving that update during the recess to enable us to maintain adequate, robust and fair scrutiny of actions in this area, and with a view to agreeing our next steps as a Committee at the beginning of next term as a matter of priority.

Yours sincerely,

Lynne Neagle AM
Chair