Lesley Griffiths AC / AM Y Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Minister for Health and Social Services



Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-400 Ein cyf/Our ref MB-LG-4765-12

William Powell AM
Chair of the Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

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November 2012

Dear Bull

Thank you for your letter of the 22 October 2012 regarding issues raised by petitioners about the management and monitoring of the *Together for Mental Health* Delivery Plan, and service users experiences which are of concern to the Committee.

In relation to concerns about the management and monitoring of the Delivery Plan my officials are establishing a new Mental Health National Partnership Board (NPB), which will meet for the first time on Dec 3rd. This new board's specific role is to oversee the delivery and implementation of Together for Mental Health and its Delivery plan. The NPB will guide and monitor progress, and facilitate co-ordination of the cross cutting approach required across Welsh Government, Statutory Agencies and Third and Independent Sectors to deliver the actions in the Delivery Plan. The board will advise me on progress, emerging issues and future priorities.

The NPB will review annual progress reports provided by Local Health Boards on implementation of the Delivery Plan priorities in their area, and prepare an annual all-Wales report on progress and next steps

The requirement for a Care and Treatment plan and a Care Co-ordinator is set out in the Measure and is a legal requirement. LHB's and their partners would be open to legal challenge should they not fulfil the legislative requirement. The time scales for allocation of care co-ordinator and care and treatment plans are given in the Code of Practice and 'due regard' must also be given to these.

We have already started collecting information on the number of people that have a completed Care and Treatment plan on a month by month basis. However we are also plan to be look at the quality of those plans. We are developing service user led outcome measures, as well as service users and care satisfaction scales.

We will be using this data alongside independent research to consider the impact of the Measure on the provision of mental health services in Wales, this "duty to review" within the first 4 years is also written into the Mental Health (Wales) Measure.

Over the next 12 months all service users within secondary mental health services should have been involved in the development of an outcome focused care and treatment plan. The University of Lincoln have developed learning resources with service users and all areas in Wales have been trained in Care and Treatment planning. The Code of Practice focussed on recovery and or maintaining quality of life and we are committed to ensure that the principles of respect and empowerment underpin all our services.

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM

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