Mark Drakeford AC / AM
Y Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-492 Ein cyf/Our ref MD/01349/15

William Powell AC / AM Chair - Petitions Committee Ty Hywel Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1NA

May 2015



Thank you for your letter dated 23 April, asking me for my comments on correspondence you have received from the Pembrokeshire branch of the National Autistic Society Cymru in relation to Petition P-04-492 – Diagnosis of Autism in Children.

Taking each of their points in turn:

- Louise Albert, deputy area manager for the National Autistic Society Cymru, is a member of the Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) diagnostic task and finish group. The Pembrokeshire branch will be able to provide information to the group via her representation, as appropriate.
- Grant funding has been allocated this year to undertake a mapping exercise to gather information on current diagnosis across Wales and undertake a clinical audit. The findings will help shape the task and finish group's recommendations on how diagnostic services can be improved and waiting times reduced.
- 3. The task and finish group will produce a report with recommendations for my consideration. At that time I will make a final decision on whether the report will be made public, although I do not anticipate there being any barriers to its publication.

Best wishes,

Mark Drakeford AC / AM

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