

Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 15 March 2011

[R] signifies that the Member has declared an interest.

[W] signifies that the question was tabled in Welsh.

Contents

- 2 Questions to the Minister for Health and Social Services

To ask the Minister for Health and Social Services

Helen Mary Jones (Llanelli): What does the Minister see as the core role of primary mental health workers in CAMHS. (WAQ57288)

Answer issued on 15 March 2011

Primary health care workers remain a key component of coordinated comprehensive CAMHS services. Their role is to provide training, consultation and advice to non CAMHS professionals working with children and young people. They currently provide a small proportion of direct work, but their primary role is to both support Tier 1 professionals as they work with children with mental health needs, and help them access appropriate involvement of specialist services when this is required.

Helen Mary Jones (Llanelli): What role does the Minister envisage Primary Mental Health Workers playing in the implementation of parts 1 and 2 of the Mental Health (Wales) Measure. (WAQ57289)

Answer issued on 15 March 2011

It is anticipated that primary mental health workers will deliver the core components of local primary mental health support services under Part 1 of the Measure, namely assessment and treatment for individuals, advice and education for GPs, signposting and advice for patients and carers, and referrals on to further services.

Primary mental health workers will liaise with care coordinators, as necessary, in relation to Part 2 of the Measure.

Helen Mary Jones (Llanelli): How many Primary Mental Health Workers are paid for with NHS funds. (WAQ57290)

Answer issued on 15 March 2011

There will be 44.1 whole time equivalent Primary Mental Health Workers paid for with NHS funds from the start of the 2011/2012 financial year.

Helen Mary Jones (Llanelli): How many Primary Mental Health Workers have been funded through Cymorth funds and the Joint Working Special Grant. (WAQ57291)

Answer issued on 15 March 2011

There have been 9.71 whole time equivalent Primary Mental Health Workers funded through Cymorth funds and the Joint Working Special Grant.

Helen Mary Jones (Llanelli): What impact will the changes in Cymorth and the cessation of the Joint Working Special Grant have on the NHS CAMH service target of achieving 2 Primary Mental Health Workers per 100,000 head of population. (WAQ57292)

Answer issued on 15 March 2011

Part 1 of the Mental Health (Wales) Measure reasserts the responsibility of health and social care, working in partnership to provide Primary Mental Health Workers (PMHWs) within CAMHS as part of core services.

Ahead of Part 1 of the Measure coming into force, it is expected that LHBs and Local Authorities will continue to ensure PMHWs are in place to meet the service targets for such workers currently in place, so it should not impact the change.