

Eluned Morgan AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services

Lynne Neagle AS/MS  
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Iechyd Meddwl a Llesiant  
Deputy Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Mark Isherwood MS  
Senedd Regional Member for North Wales

[Mark.isherwood@senedd.wales](mailto:Mark.isherwood@senedd.wales)

8 February 2022

Dear Mark

We write in relation to your comments during the Business Statement in the Senedd on 1 February, in which you implied comments we had made in earlier debates about mental health services in Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and the Holden report – on 29 September 2021 and 8 December 2021, respectively – were not “accurate and truthful” and that we had “knowingly misled the Senedd”.

In our respective statements, we referred to work undertaken and subsequently published by the health board in January 2021. This [public document](#) (agenda item 2.4) shows the actions taken by Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board in relation to each of the recommendations in the Holden report.

We have been clear in our statements to the Senedd in relation to the Holden review and its recommendations, that further work is needed. Indeed, the health board’s own paper acknowledges that “*whilst issues identified in the Holden report were addressed, due to the significant passage of time (seven years) some issues have reoccurred (such as the current position with a high number of interims in senior divisional leadership positions)*”. The health board remains in Targeted Intervention because further support is needed.

Your comments in the Business Statement heavily imply we have not acted in accordance with the Ministerial Code. If you sincerely believe there has been a breach of the Ministerial Code, you must write to the First Minister and ask for this to be looked into as a matter of urgency.

We are sure you would not wish to perpetuate misinformation around the hard work being done by staff in Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board to improve mental health services to improve care for people across North Wales by allowing it to stand. In light of this, we would ask you to reflect on the comments you have made and correct the Record at the earliest opportunity.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

In light of the seriousness of this matter, we are copying this letter to the Llywydd.

Yours sincerely



**Eluned Morgan AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau  
Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services



**Lynne Neagle AS/MS**  
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Iechyd Meddwl a  
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