

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ80599 - WQ80600

Lynne Neagle MS
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

21 June 2020

Dear Lynne,

I'm writing in response to:

WQ80599: Will the Minister confirm that the 48 hour target for urgent CAMHS assessment by Health boards has remained in place since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic?

WQ80600: Will the Minister make a statement detailing individual health boards' performance against the 48 hour target for urgent CAMHS assessment in March, April and May 2020?

Mental health services, including crisis and out of hours services, have been positioned as essential services during the pandemic. This means that whilst service delivery models have been adapted to the current restrictions, services continue to be available to respond to mental health needs.

Whilst routine performance reporting has been stood down to reduce the burden on health boards, the Welsh Government established the Mental Health Incident Group to maintain oversight of mental health services during the pandemic. During this period, health boards have reported to the MHIG on a weekly basis on the capacity and capability of mental health services using the Mental Health Monitoring tool.

Whilst the expectation for services to respond to urgent CAMHS assessments within 48 hours remains in place, this indicator is not included in the NHS Delivery Framework and is not reported to the Welsh Government. However, the weekly reporting by health boards using the Mental Health Monitoring tool has provided assurance to the Mental Health Incident Group that crisis and out of hours services have continued to be available during the pandemic.

Yours sincerely,

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services

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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.