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



Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ81111

Andrew R T Davies MS Welsh Parliament Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1SN

12 October 2020

Dear Andrew,

I am writing in response to WQ81111: Will the Minister confirm whether the Welsh Government will introduce personal health budgets?

Direct payments for health are not currently permissible in Wales, however health boards and local authorities can agree joint packages of care for individuals to help maintain voice and control. We recently consulted on a revised national framework for NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC) in Wales and received a number of responses highlighting issues around the provision of direct payments for CHC, to allow individuals to have voice and control over their care.

The clear expectation in Wales is for personalised, seamless, integrated health and social care that enables individuals to maintain voice and control where they wish to. We are considering potential solutions, including looking at the feasibility of introducing Independent User Trusts in Wales. Whilst that work, along with finalising the CHC framework, has had to be paused due to the Covid pandemic, we will look to refocus on this as soon as possible.

If you would like further information, the consultation summary report is available here: https://gov.wales/draft-national-framework-continuing-nhs-healthcare

Yours sincerely,

Vaughan Gething AS/MS

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

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