Dear Lynne

**Petition P-05-857 Create a national task force for children's mental health**

The Petitions Committee considered the above petition for the first time on 29 January.

At that meeting the Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to write to the Children, Young People and Education Committee to make you aware of the petition in the context of your ongoing work on this subject following the Mind over Matter report.

In light of its potential relevance to the national task force called for within the petition, Petitions Committee members also agreed to ask for any reflections that the CYPE Committee has in relation to the role and scope of the Joint Ministerial Task and Finish Group established by the Cabinet Secretary for Education and the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services.

You may wish to be aware that we also agreed to:

- write back to the Minister for Health and Social Services to provide the additional comments received from the petitioners and to ask for his response, in particular in relation to the observations and proposals made in relation to the role of the Ministerial Task and Finish Group; and
- request a briefing from the Research Service on the existing requirements in relation to mental health plans for children and their effectiveness.

Further information on the petition, including the full text and the correspondence received to date, is available on the website at: [http://www.senedd.assembly.wales/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=23898](http://www.senedd.assembly.wales/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=23898)
I would be grateful if you could send your response by e-mail to the clerking team at SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales.

If you have any queries, please contact the Committee clerking team at the e-mail address above, or on 0300 200 6379.

Yours sincerely

David J Rowlands AM
Chair