

Vaughan Gething AM
Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay

8 August 2016

Budget Scrutiny

Dear Cabinet Secretary

In advance of the Committee's scrutiny of the Welsh Government's budget, the Committee would be grateful if you could provide information on the following issues to assist it in its scrutiny work.

To assist the Committee in its work, I would be grateful if you could provide the information requested in this letter by **24 October**.

Neonatal services

- The budget allocated to meet the neonatal national standards; the Government's priorities for neonatal services for the next 12 months and in the longer term; and how the budget allocation for 2017–18 will help to drive change / deliver performance improvement;
- A budgetary breakdown of the revenue allocation for neonatal services for 2017–18, including expenditure by Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC);
- Levels of expenditure on neonatal services in Wales each year, since 2008, by LHB, including WHSSC spending (following increased investment from the Welsh Government for neonatal services in 2008, helping to establish a clinical network, improve staffing levels and transport provision);



- Specific information about the budget allocation and expenditure for neonatal transport services, including confirmation that sufficient funding has been provided in the budget allocations for 2017–18 to provide a full time service in South and North Wales and for a dedicated ambulance service in West Wales.
- Comprehensive detail of costs, expenditure, staffing and vacancy levels within Welsh Neonatal services.
- Information on how expenditure on neonatal services is tracked by the Welsh Government and the processes in place to hold LHBs to account for ensuring that neonatal services have the funding and staffing they need to meet national standards.
- Any further information on the business plan for a new £18m Glan Clwyd neonatal unit and the upgrading of the neonatal service at the Royal Gwent Hospital, and associated costs.

Child Health inequalities

In the context of preparing for an aging population and severe pressure on health and social care services, how is the Welsh Government planning to tackle child health inequalities and how this is reflected in the budget allocations for 2017–18?

CAMHS

- Information on funding for specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) for 2017–18
- What assessment has been made of financial implications of delivering the Together for Children and Young People Programme (T4CYP) for 2017–18
- What assessment has been made on the percentage of LHB mental health spending allocated for CAMHS in 2015–16 and 2016–17
- Whether the additional £7.6 million allocated to CAMHS, announced in May 2015, will continue to be allocated on an ongoing annual basis
- An update on the actual expenditure for the initial rounds of this funding, both the out-turns for the financial year 2015–16 and the predicted spend for 2016–17, which was intended to fund:
 - £2m to develop neuro-developmental services, including those for ADHD and autistic spectrum disorders;
 - £2.7m to improve out-of-hours and crisis CAMHS response;



- £1.1m to expand access to psychological therapies, including increasing talking therapies as an alternative to medication;
- £800,000 to improve local primary mental health support services;
- £250,000 to expand provision for children and young people in the criminal justice system; and
- £800,000 to address the needs of young people who have an early onset of a severe illness, such as a psychosis.

With many thanks for assisting us in our scrutiny work.

Regards



Lynne Neagle AC / AM
Cadeirydd / Chair

