

Mark Drakeford AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MB/MD/5213/14

David Rees AM
Chair
Health and Social Care Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
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December 2014

Deu David,

Thank you for your letter dated 26 November 2014 regarding my attendance at the Health and Social Care Committee's meeting on 20 November 2014 to discuss the Committee's post-legislative scrutiny of the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010.

In response to your request for details of the numbers of patients referred under various mental health pathways, and the performance against the target referral times for each pathway, I can confirm it is the Local Primary Mental Health Support Service (LPMHSS) that has a target of 28 days from referral to assessment (currently at over 71%) and one of 56 days from assessment to intervention (currently at over 85%).

The referrals to this service by a GP would not be of an urgent nature. They would typically be for those experiencing mild to moderate depression for example. If, following assessment by the LPMHSS, it was decided the patient needs were such that they could not be met at a primary care level then they would be referred to secondary mental health services.

A GP's ability to refer to secondary mental health services was not changed by the introduction of the Measure. Interim guidance for community mental health teams was issued in July 2010 and remains extant. That guidance makes explicit when a community mental health team receives a referral the timescales referred to by Dr Watkins apply.

These timescales are not part of the NHS tier 1 targets and as such performance is not collated centrally.

*Best wishes,
Mark*

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Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

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