

Vaughan Gething AC/AM
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref MAVG/5169/19

Dai Lloyd AM
Chair
Health, Social Care and Sport Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

6 November 2019

Dear Dai,

I am writing to update the Committee following my written evidence of 15 March in relation to the Committee's inquiry into mental health and policing, and mental health in police custody.

In my written evidence, I informed the Committee that the Crisis Care Concordat Assurance Group established a task and finish group to co-produce a revised data set for sections 135 and sections 136 of the Mental Health Act, 1983. This work has been taken forward with policing, health boards, local authorities and Mental Health Act administrators in Wales. The revised data set aims to take account of changes to the Mental Health Act relating to policing powers and responsibilities and to strengthen the current data.

Following a pilot period, the data has been approved by the Welsh Information Standards Board and was implemented in April 2019. On 5 December, the first quarterly publication of this data will start. It will include more information than has been published previously, such as ethnicity, ages of patients and methods of conveyance. We are continuing to work with partners in policing, NHS and local authorities to improve consistency of all data to enable us to publish a fuller profile in the future.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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.

More detail will be provided in the formal pre-announcement one month prior to publication of the data. However, given the Committee's interest in this area, I wanted to provide an early update prior to the formal announcement and the Welsh Government's response to the Committee's *Mental Health in Policing and Police Custody* report.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vaughan Gething AC/AM

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