

Vaughan Gething AC / AM
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Iechyd
Deputy Minister for Health



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref MA – (P) VG 664 15

David Rees
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Dear David,

During the plenary debate on the Health and Social Care Committee inquiry into alcohol and substance misuse held on 21st October, I gave a commitment to provide further information on how we will be responding to some of the specific issues raised.

The need for a fresh focus on the ability of primary care to deliver substance misuse services was raised. Officials have liaised with colleagues and we have been assured that this matter is currently being considered with discussions in place with the Deanery and RCGP.

There was also a suggestion, during the debate, that DAN 24/7, the Welsh 24 hour, 7 day a week substance misuse helpline should be more closely aligned with its English equivalent 'Talk to Frank'. The service provided by DAN 24/7 has improved substantially in recent years, widening its scope through increased contacts, the introduction of social media and through the promotion of annual awareness raising campaigns. DAN 24/7 is currently subject to an internal review and I confirm that we will consider the range of services being provided by 'Talk to Frank' as part of this process.

As you are aware we are currently developing our new three year substance misuse delivery plan which will run from 2016-18. We have ensured that the recommendations from the Health and Social Care Committee's new psychoactive substances and alcohol and substance misuse inquiries have been incorporated as actions within the plan.

Yours sincerely

Vaughan Gething AC / AM
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Deputy Minister for Health

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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.