

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol at y Cyfarfod Llawn Information Further to Plenary

Cyhoeddir ymatebion yn yr iaith y'u darparwyd, gyda chyfieithiad Saesneg o ymatebion yn y Gymraeg.

Responses are published in the language in which they are provided, with a translation into English of responses provided in Welsh.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(4)0600(FM) a gyhoeddwyd gan Carwyn Jones, y Prif Weinidog, ar 17 Gorffennaf 2012
Information further to OAQ(4)0600(FM) issued by Carwyn Jones, the First Minister, on 17 July 2012

At/To Jocelyn Davies:

During Questions on 3 July you asked whether the Welsh Government would consider introducing a uniform process of assessment for people with mental health problems, and I agreed to write to you on the matter.

Within the field of mental health there are a wide variety of conditions which require a range of clinical assessments and interventions, varying according to diagnosis. As a result, we do not consider it practical to introduce one single, standardised form of assessment for mental health services within Local Health Boards and Local Authorities. For example, the tools required in assessing an individual for Obsessive Compulsive Disorder could be markedly different from someone with a diagnosis of Schizophrenia.

In terms of improving care planning and care co-ordination to ensure people with mental health problems receive all the services they need, it is now a statutory requirement under the Mental Health (Wales) Measure for Local Health Boards and Local Authorities to ensure individuals in secondary services have a holistic Care and Treatment Plan, which takes into account individual's wider needs, such as employment, housing, finance and physical health. This plan will, of course, be agreed following an appropriate and comprehensive assessment according to the individual's needs.

As stated in *Together for Mental Health*, the cross-Government strategy for mental health and wellbeing currently under consultation, we recognise that a range of support is crucial to improving mental health and to assisting recovery and reablement. Care and Treatment Plans should identify the outcomes that services are designed to achieve, drawn from the aspects of a person's life that have the most impact on their mental health and wellbeing. We have issued a Code of Practice to Parts 2 and 3 of the Measure which provides guidance for service providers. For information, the Care and Treatment Plan template can be found here: <http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/health/publications/health/guidance/careplan/?lang=en>

The Measure also intends to support a step change in the mental health services available in primary care settings. Health Boards and Local Authorities are now increasing capacity to offer assessment, brief therapy interventions, onward referral, and advice and information for people of all ages through new Local Primary Mental Health Support Services.