

Sarah Murphy AS/MS  
Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd Meddwl a Llesiant



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1463  
Ein cyf/Our ref SM/10078/24

Carolyn Thomas MS  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
Senedd

[petitions@senedd.wales](mailto:petitions@senedd.wales)

04 October 2024

Dear Carolyn,

Thank you for the letter on 6 September about *Petition P-06-1463 Continue to fund school police officers who educate children and support schools*. I am replying as responsibility for the programme is in my portfolio.

The funding for the WPSP was withdrawn due to the unprecedented financial constraints when the draft Budget 2024-25 was being developed. The priority for the budget was to protect funding for frontline public services.

The Cabinet was faced with a series of very difficult decisions and as it developed the budget, it considered whether to continue funding non-devolved areas where we have traditionally stepped in to provide funding in the absence of support from the previous UK Government.

As you will be aware, match funding for the programme was provided by the four police forces. I understand the police are currently considering their involvement in schools and will be taking views from stakeholders about the future model of engagement with the education sector. The Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed Powys has said they will continue to fund a police schools programme.

Education officials are also liaising with Public Health Wales, which is co-producing a toolkit to support schools to design and develop their Health and Well-being Area of Learning and Experience through identified high-priority health and well-being topics.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
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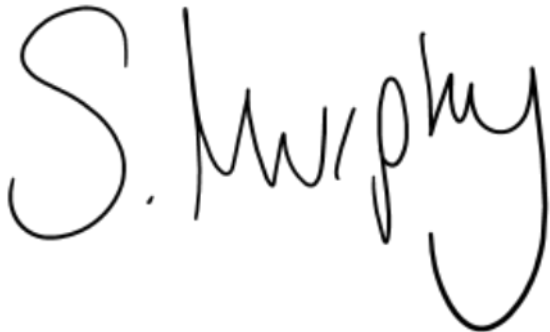
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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.

Welsh Government officials will be working with a range of internal and external stakeholders to examine what existing or alternative provision and resources are available to ensure children are have information to allow them to make informed decisions and keep them safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "S. Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S" and a long, sweeping underline.

**Sarah Murphy AS/MS**  
Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd Meddwl a Llesiant