Transgender Wales

4th January 2011

Ref: JHB/WAG/0007

Christine Chapman A.M.
Chair Petition Committee,
National Assembly for Wales,
Cardiff Bay,
Cardiff.
CF99 1NA

Dear Christine.

Many thanks for the update on our petition, there are several points we wish to raise relating to it. From the work we are doing with Welsh Health Specialists Services with the Gender Dysphoria Planning Strategy Project Board. It has become very clear to us that there are a number of points which need to be address by the respective members of various Committees and Ministers. The only part of Wales which has a Gender Identity Referral Pathway, this is in North Wales were there is a Consultant Psychiatrist but these patients have to wait six to eight months to get there first appointment, this is due to they have to be given appointments with other mental patients at the same time they do have an Endocrinologist working with them so they are the only part of Wales that have a service for any one having a referral from there general practice Doctor.

In South Wales Mid Wales and West Wales have no services within the area. They are first referred to a General Psychiatrist by there General Practice Doctor the first Psychiatrist then referrers the patient to a second psychiatrist the on to the Local Health Trust gatekeeper who the referred the patients on the Welsh Health Specialist Services Committee to be referred to the Gender Identity Clinic in London, this is time consuming plus a wait to get an appointment with the Gender Clinic. From my own information a patient referred to the clinic has to wait at for another six to eight month before an appointment with a Consultant Psychiatrist this is on top of the time to get the referral from the GP through the Local Health Trust at present for one person this has taken up to ten months

This is a service which would be much better if Consultant Psychiatrist were in post in other health Trust it would show a cost reduction on gender Identity patients across Wales and at the same time would make Wales self sufficient in this part of the patients as this is the longest part of the of the route to reaching there desired gender, working this way there would only be a need for a patient to go out of Wales for surgery

Working with a sister organisation is a two page document giving the General Practices Doctors, gives the doctor information on Gender Dysphoria that is very useful to them as it gives information that will help them with a patients it would be very good if this could be sent out to the GP in Wales this has been done in conjunction with GEIRS I have shown this to my own GP who has said that it is a most useful piece if information that can be kept in a desk draw and is ease to get out when required.

Please fiend the above mention two page document, if this was produced and then laminated.

Yours sincerely.

Julie H. Baker.
Chair of Transgender Wales,