

**Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc
ac Addysg**

**Children, Young People
and Education Committee**

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Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care
Jeremy Miles MS

Minister for Children and Social Care
Dawn Bowden MS

Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing
Sarah Murphy MS

20 November 2025

Follow up to Welsh Government Draft Budget 2026-27 Evidence Session

Dear Jeremy, Dawn and Sarah,

Thank you to you and your officials for attending the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2026-27 Evidence Session on 19 November 2025.

As we mentioned during the session, there were further issues we were unable to address due to time constraints. We consider these matters important to the scrutiny process and believe they can be effectively pursued in writing. We would therefore be grateful if you could respond to the following questions:

1. How is the Welsh Government ensuring that the NHS 111 'Press 2' urgent mental health support service is meeting the specific needs of children and young people, while also delivering value for money. In addition, please provide details of the data available on usage and outcomes for this age group, together with any evaluation undertaken to inform the decision to mainstream this service across health boards.
2. What progress is being made in reducing long waiting times for children's neurodevelopmental assessments under the Neurodivergence Improvement Programme?



How will the additional £13.7 million in funding and the development of a new Code of Practice ensure that children's needs are given appropriate priority across all health boards, and that improvements in access and service delivery are sustained?

3. What further detail can you provide on the enhanced payments for practices seeing children from infancy under the new GDS contract launching in April 2026, and how will this reform support improved access and outcomes for children, particularly in the most deprived areas, while contributing to the reduction of oral health inequalities?

We would be grateful if you could respond by 1 December 2025.

Yours sincerely,



Buffy Williams MS

Chair

Children, Young People and Education Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.