

**Cllr.Paxton Hood-Williams**

**By E-mail**

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*Our Ref:* LG/WN

*Your Ref:*

*Date:* 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Cllr Paxton Hood-Williams

**RE: Child and Family Services Scrutiny.**

Thank you for your letter following the last Child and Family Services Scrutiny and Performance Panel (held on 13<sup>th</sup> September) inviting my comments on any of the issues raised.

With regard to the young carer's presentation, and the growing number of referrals received by the YMCA, I can confirm that providing the right support for young carers at the right time will remain a priority for Child and Family Services. This support can be provided from a range of different agencies, including the current commissioned service (via the YMCA), schools, and our early help hubs. We will continue to explore alternative sources support of based on the feedback from young carers.

We recognise the importance of language and this needing to reflect the age and understanding of the child and young person. The service will work with the YMCA and education to modify the materials used to ensure they are more child friendly.

I note the panel highlighted from their discussions about the adolescent strategy, the lack of resource to support young people around emotional health and wellbeing. I can confirm that the Youth Justice Service has recruited a CAMHS worker specifically to support young people with emotional wellbeing and mental health needs, and that the local emotional health and wellbeing group (which has representatives from the health board, child and family services, education and the third sector) is exploring what services are needed in Swansea in different settings to improve the emotional health and wellbeing of young people.

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I hope this response is helpful in providing additional information and context to the issues raised by Panel.

Yours faithfully,



Cllr Louise Gibbard

**Cynghorydd / Councillor Louise Gibbard** Dyfnant a Chilâ

Cyd-aelod y Cabinet dros Gwasanaethau Gofal

Cabinet Member Care Services