



Ein cyf/Our ref: MA-P/VG/2362/19

Andrew R T Davies AM  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

26 June 2019

Dear Andrew,

I write following oral questions on 5 June 19 to clarify the remit of the bereavement review and following my attendance at the Children and Young People's Committee on 20 June 19 with the Minister for Education.

The bereavement scoping study is making good progress and I can confirm that it covers both adult and children's bereavement. Over 200 responses have been received and the data collection period has been extended until the end of this month. An interim report (copy enclosed for information) has been produced and the final report with a fuller analysis is expected in October.

The Minister for Education and I attended the Children and Young People's Committee on 20 June 19 where the Minister for Education confirmed that the 'Responding to issues of Self-Harm and thoughts of suicide in Young People: Guidance for Teachers, Professionals, Volunteers, and Youth Services' would be published later in the year, possibly to coincide with World Anti-Suicide Day on 10 September 19. The rationale being that this would have a greater impact than at the end of the school year and enable momentum to be maintained.

The Minister for Education also confirmed her expectation that schools and local education authorities would fully utilise this guidance and of her intention to use the school's framework to highlight its importance. The Minister also advised that her officials are in discussions with Professor Ann John at Swansea University over the potential to undertake more targeted research on better understanding bystander interventions, and also empathetic responses to distressed posts, and cyber bullying on social media.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely,

**Vaughan Gething AC/AM**  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services

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