

Appendix 2

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NA/ BD

7 June 2012

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Dear Wyn,

I agreed to write to you as Chair of NWSSIC to express the views of the Social Services Directors regarding the agreement of the scheme for the Mental Health Measure.

Clearly as a professional health and social care community, we have worked hard to come to a draft scheme which we can support from a professional point of view.

Therefore I can confirm that we as Directors of Social Services will work in partnership with the Local Health Board and regional partners to fulfil our obligations under the Mental Health Measure within the terms drafted. We do this from a professional officer perspective recognising that full agreement from corporate bodies will need to be through relevant political structures which will take place in June and July.

We also recognise that the agreed scheme is a live document and will need to be amended in the light of experience and further comment from other bodies notably Welsh Government.

Clearly NWSSIC welcomes the policy commitment to improve access to Mental Health assessments and services contained in the measure. At the same time we do remain convinced of the need to monitor resource implications from the measure closely, and as a professional organisation would reserve the right to make representation for resources to Welsh Government in partnership with the Local Health Board.

I also note the suggested common outline of the report to go to political committees and NWSSIC supports this framework which will form reports to authorities which will have specific issues for the counties.

Thank you for the support with this process.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Ayling', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Neil Ayling
Chair of North Wales Social Services Improvement Collaborative