

Yr Adran Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Department for Health and Social Services

Ref: SMDSR 0314

To: Chairs of APBs  
Cc: Substance Misuse Leads & Treatment Providers  
Peter Jones, Deputy Director Digital Health and Care  
Substance Misuse Advisory Regional Teams



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Date: 10 March 2014

Dear Colleague

### **SUBSTANCE MISUSE DATASET REVIEW**

As you will be aware the Substance Misuse Dataset has been reviewed over the last year in light of emerging operational requirements.

This piece of work has been done in conjunction with a number of providers and commissioners and I would like to take this opportunity to thank those that have been involved and to all of the substance misuse providers who responded to the recent impact assessment.

The responses have now been reviewed and incorporated into the new suite of guidance documents which are appended to this letter. Ensuring data quality for this dataset is paramount and therefore you will note that we have also included within the guidance documentation a series of verification checks that will be undertaken on submission which will enable agencies to ensure the robustness of their data.

The new dataset will be mandated from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 (thus operational from the May submission date). Colleagues from NWIS will be in contact with individual agencies in order to agree an implementation schedule in the near future.

The changes to the dataset have been approved by the Welsh Information Standards Board, the Dataset Change Notice (reference DSCN 2014/02) attached confirms this approval and is the information mandate for the collection of this data.

Should you have any queries with regard to this letter, please do not hesitate to contact your local SMART or Sally Thompson at [sally.thompson@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:sally.thompson@wales.gsi.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

Tracey Breheny  
Deputy Director: Substance Misuse Policy, Government and Corporate Business Division