

Brian Gibbons AM/AC
Minister for Health and Social Services
Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Our ref: BG/03069/05
Your ref:

Professor David Felce
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9 January 2006

Dear David,

I wrote to you on 6 December to advise that I was considering the future of the Advocacy Grant Scheme and I am now writing to you to confirm my decision.

Having considered the BILD Evaluation Report and the views of the LDIAG I have decided that:

- the present Advocacy Grant Scheme should continue for a further two years from 2006-07 and that the main part of the grant resources be applied to sustain the activity of existing grant recipients;
- the advocacy grant projects in receipt of grant should be evaluated during the first year and any underperforming schemes should lose their grant;
- any uncommitted or released grant resources should be applied to new advocacy projects in the priority service areas identified in the British Institute of Learning Disabilities (BILD) evaluation report i.e. advocacy for people with high individual support needs and people from black and minority ethnic communities;
- during this two year period we should seek to identify and disseminate best practice and develop learning disability advocacy standards that may be applied in any future grant application rounds;

I was unable to accept the LDIAG's proposals that I should decide now to introduce a new 3 year grant scheme from 2008-09. The future of the grant scheme from 2008-09 will be considered during 2007.



RUDDSODDWR MEWN POBL
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

I have asked Assembly officials to copy this letter to Janet Badger, Grant Scheme Manager, BILD, for her information, with the request that she copies the letter on to all current grant recipients.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Brian Gibbons'.

Brian Gibbons AM/AC