

ELGC COV 01

Ymchwiliad i COVID-19 a'i effaith

Inquiry into COVID-19 and its impact

Ymateb gan: Unigolyn 1

Response from: Individual 1

Whilst I understand these decisions are difficult there have been some very obvious things that could and should have been done: better care in care homes (an ongoing issue) and better PPE and better NHS funding. Had this been done earlier we would not now be in this impasse.

Now to the areas you highlight:

1. Local government: poor from where I am sitting. The parks in Newport have been closed and those highly paid officers of the council sit in their homes with large salaries and, probably, large gardens making crass and callous decisions at the stroke of the keyboard. All the time they remain nameless and unaccountable while innumerable people sit in high rises, effectively incarcerated, with few places to go. The attitude seems to be to let them eat cake in their flats whilst the officers making these decisions sip a Pimm's on the chaise longue. At the end of this these people need to be made publicly accountable. And, I am sure, this is but one example.

Thanks and greater recognition should go to the care teams, social workers and others who receive little mention as they do very important work and continue to do so.

2. Housing - see comments above about cake, Pimm's and the chaise longue

3. Equalities - this is about poverty. The poorer you are the more you will struggle to access exercise and other basic human rights. It's blindingly obvious, yet the people in power seem to be raining down on these people the most. I have a garden so it does not apply to me. But this is about equalities. Let's hope you will do something to rectify this. And soon. Remove police powers to harass people trying to get some fresh air on the beach. Most police I have met have been brilliant. However, one arrogant fool in uniform decided to flex some distinctly unimpressive muscles last week when I was out with my son.

4. Human rights- people have the right to work, avoid being abused by abusive partners (especially women and children), to exercise, to see loved ones and friends. You have abrogated all those rights. Overnight. Nothing more needs to be added.

5. Any other issues: blanket incarceration of the population with no plan and abrogation of basic human rights are enough to be going on with.