

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol
Minister for Natural Resources



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref CS/01271/15

William Powell AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

1 September 2015

Dear William

Thank you for your letter of the 6 August regarding a request from the petitioner, Leonard Cheshire Disability, for further information relating to improving the provision of disabled friendly housing in Wales.

Following correspondence from the Leonard Cheshire organisation to the Minister for Health and Social Services, the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty, which was copied to you, officials from Planning, Housing Policy and Homes & Places Divisions met with representatives of the organisation and the College of Occupational Therapists on 18 August to discuss the matters included within the petition and those that were the subject of the further information request.

Leonard Cheshire has agreed to provide the Welsh Government with more information to support the points it has raised on the standards to which new homes are built and on associated matters, such as Accessible Housing Registers.

In relation to existing homes and adaptations, following research into the current system for delivering adaptations to people's homes, the Welsh Government is working with all the key stakeholders to develop an enhanced system. When finalised, it will improve the provision of adaptations to those who need the assistance. The College of Occupational Therapists, who have been working with the Leonard Cheshire Homes on this matter, are members of the Working Group developing the enhanced system and will channel their views into it.

From a Planning perspective we will look at the effectiveness of current planning policy by: firstly examining adopted Local Development Plans for effective policies which might seek to deliver Lifetime Homes, and; secondly trying to gain a better understanding of some of the information presented by Leonard Cheshire, so we will try to establish the quantum of Lifetime Homes delivered through the planning system by writing to Local Planning Authorities.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl Sargeant". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'C'.

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol
Minister for Natural Resources

cc Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty
 Minister for Health and Social Services