



Wales Office
Swyddfa Cymru

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP
Secretary of State for Wales

Gwydyr House Tŷ Gwydyr
London, SW1A Llundain, SW1A 2NP
2NP

1 Caspian Point 1 Pwynt Caspian
Cardiff Bay, CF10 Bae Caerdydd, CF10
4DQ 4DQ

www.walesoffice.gov.uk

David Rees AM
Chair, Health and Social Care
Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

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Dear Mr Rees

Thank you for providing me with a copy of your evidence to the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee following Health and Social Care Committee's scrutiny of the draft Wales Bill.

The draft Wales Bill published for pre-legislative scrutiny is a significant step for Wales and one which provides a firm basis for a stronger, lasting Welsh devolution settlement. Of course I am open to ideas on how the Bill can be improved and I look forward to seeing the recommendations made by the Welsh Affairs Committee in addition to those expressed by Committees of the Assembly. I am grateful therefore for your Committee's consideration of the draft Bill, and the new reserved powers model, in respect of the Assembly's powers over health and social care.

A full impact assessment to accompany the Wales Bill will be published alongside its introduction in the New Year.

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP
Secretary of State for Wales