

**Y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol  
Health and Social Care Committee**

Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru  
National  
Assembly for  
Wales



**William Powell AC AM**

Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau  
Chair, Petitions Committee

5 March 2012

Dear William,

**Health and Social Care Committee – Inadequate public toilet facilities**

You will be aware that the Petitions Committee referred a petition to the Health and Social Care Committee in June 2011 relating to public toilet provision in Wales. The petition called upon the National Assembly for Wales to investigate the health and social well-being implications resulting from public toilets closures and to urge the Welsh Government to issue guidance to local authorities to ensure adequate public toilet provision.

As you are aware, we held a one-day inquiry to consider the public health implications of inadequate facilities on 19 January 2012. A report of the evidence we received is attached to this letter for your information.

Based on the evidence received, the Committee is firmly of the view that the public health case for better public toilet provision is strong. Furthermore, the Committee believes that the evidence collected suggests that there is a prima facie case for further investigation of local authority provision of public toilet facilities. A series of practical suggestions were made by witnesses, through which local provision could be better planned and provided, with improved outcomes for public health. It is our view that these potential solutions could merit further investigation by those more expert in local government matters.

The Committee has drawn this work to the attention of the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee in the hope that, when next considering its forward work programme, it may be able to consider this matter for further investigation. The work has also been drawn to the attention of the Minister for Health and Social Services and the Minister for Local Government and Communities.

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Yours sincerely

*Mark Drakeford*

**Mark Drakeford AC AM**  
Cadeirydd - Chair