

Julie Morgan AC/AM
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref: P-05-892
Ein cyf/Our ref: JM/05787/19

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Chair,
Petitions Committee

National Assembly for Wales
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11 December 2019

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter of 18 November outlining further comments received from the petitioners about the monitoring of duties under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (relating to Petition P-05-892 Appoint a Learning Disability Commissioner for Wales).

The Welsh Government has committed to an evaluation of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (the Act) to explore its implementation at a national, regional and local level. This will allow the sector to truly understand how the Act has been implemented; what is working well and what changes need to be made to improve. The evaluation will also consider the extent to which the Act has had an impact on those who receive care and support and carers who receive support directly and what has changed for them since implementation.

The evaluation commenced in November 2018 and the contract has been awarded to the University of South Wales. The evaluation will run for a minimum of three years and will include engagement with a wide range of stakeholders. Findings from the evaluation will be published and recommendations from the evaluation will be used to drive improvement within the sector. There will be regular reporting periods throughout the evaluation with the final report and recommendations being published in 2021.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

The Welsh Government is also committed to hearing from individuals with experiences of social care, including those with learning disabilities, to ensure we can drive improvement within the sector. Additional funding has been provided until October 2020 to support a project named Measuring the Mountain which focuses on people's experiences of social care. This project uses a community-based approach across the whole of Wales. It encourages all those who wish to do so, to share experiences of social care and explain what is working well for them and any issues they are facing. The stories collected from the project are analysed and provided to the Welsh Government in a formal report.

The Welsh Government has published the final report from phase one of the work and will be providing a formal response to the recommendations highlighted by the project team. All people who have experiences of social care and are happy to share them are encouraged to contact Katie Cooke, the project manager for Measuring the Mountain.

Katie can be contacted by telephone: 07964 407 739 or email:

katie.cooke@southwales.ac.uk .

More information on the project and how individuals and organisations can get involved can be found at: <http://www.mtm.wales/>

Yours sincerely,



Julie Morgan AC/AM

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