

# **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE LGH-05-03(p.2)**

**Date: Wednesday, 5 March 2003**

**Venue: Crickhowell House**

**Title: WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT'S THIRD ANNUAL REPORT ON SOCIAL INCLUSION**

## **Purpose**

1. To seek the Committee's views on the Welsh Assembly Government's Third Annual Report on Social Inclusion.

## **Summary**

2. The Third Report on Social Inclusion in Wales provides an overview of what has been done since the Assembly's inception, and particularly over the past 12 months in respect of tackling poverty and promoting social inclusion.

3. A Plenary Debate on the Report is scheduled for the week commencing 5 May 2003. Once the Report has been endorsed, and amended as necessary, it will be put on the Assembly's website and a public information leaflet produced and distributed widely as soon as possible.

## **Background**

4. The Welsh Assembly Government is committed to preparing an Annual Report on Social Inclusion in Wales. Annual Reports have been prepared and published in 2001 and 2002 setting out how the Assembly is taking forward its social inclusion agenda in all relevant policies and programmes. They have provided an analysis of the current situation in each policy area; set out activities aimed at improving matters; and detailed targets against which progress can be tracked.

5. This will be the Welsh Assembly Government's third Annual Report on Social Inclusion in Wales. The first Report, published in 2001, gave a comprehensive overview of the policies and programmes being taken forward to tackle poverty and social disadvantage. It was accepted, however, that there was a need to include broad baseline measures and targets in the Report so that the Assembly's progress could be tracked. Measures and targets were, therefore, included in the second Annual Report for 2002 but it was recognised that further work was needed on these for future Reports so that they were more robust and quantifiable.

6. This Third Report provides a range of more robust and quantifiable indicators and targets against which progress can be tracked, with a summary of trends given at the end of each chapter.

### **Cross-cutting Themes**

7. Tackling social disadvantage is one of the Assembly's major cross-cutting themes.

### **Action for Subject Committee**

8. The Committee is invited to note the content and format of the Welsh Assembly Government's Third Annual Report on Social Inclusion.

**Edwina Hart**

**Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities**

Contact Point: David Robinson, Communities Directorate, Tel: 3162