

CYPE(5)-18-20 - Paper to note 2

Senedd Cymru

Y Pwyllgor Iechyd, Gofal Cymdeithasol a Chwaraeon

—
Welsh Parliament

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

Rt Hon Mark Drakeford MS

First Minister of Wales

03 July 2020

Dear First Minister

Childcare for key workers over the summer break

You will be aware that the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee is undertaking an inquiry into the impact of the Covid-19 outbreak, and its management, on health and social care in Wales.

From the evidence we have heard as part of our inquiry, we have become concerned that there does not appear to be any specific provision for childcare for key workers with school-age children across the summer break. These workers have played a crucial role in our response to the outbreak, and that role naturally continues during the school holidays. This is particularly the case for health and social care workers who, in addition to supporting the Covid-19 response, will be critical to the work of restarting services paused during outbreak.

We feel that the Welsh Government could assist in this matter by making funding available to local authorities to enable them to put arrangements in place. We recognise the excellent response of school staff throughout the pandemic and, whilst we do not believe this additional childcare should be the responsibility of these same staff, there may be the potential to make use of school buildings for this purpose.

I would be grateful if you could give this matter some consideration and report back to us with details of how the Welsh Government intends to address this gap in provision.

A copy of this letter goes to the Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services, and the Chair of the Children, Young People and Education Committee.

Yours sincerely



Dr Dai Lloyd MS

Chair, Health, Social Care and Sport Committee



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