

**Y Gwir Anrh/Rt Hon Mark Drakeford AS/MS**  
**Prif Weinidog Cymru/First Minister of Wales**



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Russell George MS  
Chair  
Health and Social Care Committee  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

14 December 2021

Dear Chair

I am writing in respect of the arrangements for the upcoming UK-wide COVID-19 Public Inquiry, which is expected to commence in spring of 2022.

You will be aware of the public statement from the UK Government that a Chair to the Inquiry will be announced before Christmas and when that person is announced, we expect information on the Terms of Reference to follow swiftly afterwards. There will be a consultation on the Inquiry Terms, anticipated during the early part of 2022. I am keen that every opportunity is taken to shape the inquiry so the voices and experiences of the people of Wales play a significant part in the public inquiry from the very start.

I would find it helpful to understand what plans the Committee may have to engage more broadly and provide reflections on the Terms of Reference when the public consultation takes place.

Yours sincerely

**MARK DRAKEFORD**

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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.