

Julie Morgan AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Deputy Minister for Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: JMSS/10656/21

Jack Sargeant MS
Chair - Petitions committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

5 January 2022

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your letter of 4 December concerning the petition (P-06-1218) to 'Notify all 18 year olds who have been under social care the right to request their personal information'.

I recognise how important it is for young people to understand their personal journey through the care system and why certain decisions were made. As part of our existing statutory framework, our Part 6 Code of Practice (Looked After and Accommodated Children) under the Social Services and Well Being (Wales) Act 2014, sets out that local authorities must appoint a Personal Adviser (PA) to provide support for their care leavers. This states that as part of their role, young people should be offered assistance so they are able to have easy access to their case files.

As such, I feel the existing statutory framework is sufficiently robust and clear in placing the onus on personal advisers to help care experienced young people access their case files of their time in care.

I recognise there is more that can be done to raise awareness of this responsibility placed upon personal advisers and I propose to write to all local authority Leaving Care Managers to highlight this requirement.

The petitioner has raised an important issue and I hope you have found my reply helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Morgan AS/MS
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Deputy Minister for Social Services

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Gohebiaeth.Julie.Morgan@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Julie.Morgan@gov.wales

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.