

25 January 2022

Dear colleagues,

Further to the consultation we undertook last year on our priorities for the Sixth Senedd, we have agreed that appropriate housing will be an overarching priority area of work for us. Within that, we have identified that scrutinising policies and actions to end homelessness is one of our main priorities over this Senedd term, building upon the work of our predecessor committee.

Our predecessor committee welcomed the progress made at the start of the Covid 19 pandemic in placing people sleeping rough and others in need of a home into temporary accommodation, however we are aware of evidence that the number of people sleeping rough is now increasing again. We are also aware that since the start of the pandemic large numbers of people who are homeless or threatened with homelessness have been presenting to local authorities and provided with temporary accommodation every month.

We would like to invite stakeholders to share your views on the current situation and to suggest specific issues on which we could focus our forthcoming work on homelessness and rough sleeping. We would be grateful for any views you may have on the following issues, however comments do not need to be restricted to these areas:

- Your views on the effectiveness of the “everyone in” approach put in place by the Welsh Government since the start of the pandemic and challenges maintaining that approach over the coming months;
- Your views on the reasons for the apparent increase in the number of people sleeping rough and what can be done to reverse it;

- Your response to the Welsh Government's *Ending Homelessness in Wales: a high level action plan 2021-2026*, including the timescales outlined in the plan and specific Actions within the plan that should be a priority for the Committee;
- Your views on the allocations in the draft budget 2022-23 that support ending homelessness, as well as those increasing the supply, availability and accessibility of housing in the social and private sector;
- Your views on priority areas for the Green Paper on legislative reform, which is expected to be published by the Welsh Government in 2022, and areas the Committee should focus its scrutiny on;
- Your response to the recommendations made by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales in his report, *Homelessness Reviewed: an open door to positive change*.

We would be grateful for responses by Friday 25 February to assist us in planning our work programme for the summer term, and we look forward to engaging with you as we progress our work on this important matter.

Yours sincerely



John Griffiths MS

Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.