



Ein cyf/Our ref LF/MD/0523/15

David Rees AM
Chair, Health and Social Care Committee

2 June 2015

Dear David

Thank you for your letter of 19 May 2015 regarding the links between the review of Dr Flynn into Operation Jasmine and the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Bill.

I agree that the review's findings are a very important consideration as we develop our regulatory regime. I, together with the First Minister, have met with Dr Flynn on a number of occasions over the past year to hear how her review has been progressing, and to be updated on her thinking into how our systems might need to respond to her findings.

From the outset there were three central ambitions that Dr Flynn and I discussed for legislation based on her work:

- To shift accountability within our legislative system, so that those who own and gain from providing services are held accountable for them.
- That our legislative system must allow action by regulators to go beyond a single setting or service, so that poor providers can be removed from the register in totality.
- To place in statute, the access of users and families to information about the services and care that they or their loved ones receive.

I believe the Bill tackles these core issues head on, providing significant reform to how we regulate social care in Wales.

As you may be aware, Dr Flynn wrote to the First Minister in December 2014 outlining some of her more detailed ambitions in the area of legislation. This letter built on previous conversations and represented, as Dr Flynn suggested, a potential agenda for future consideration.

These ambitions and others will be reflected in Dr Flynn's review, scheduled to be published in the first half of July. I will happily write to the Committee again following that publication to detail how I believe this bill is meeting the recommendations that Dr Flynn may set out in her report.

Best wishes.

Mark

Mark Drakeford AC / AM

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services