

P 08

Ymchwiliad i'r Adolygiad Blaenoriaethau ar gyfer y Pwyllgor Iechyd, Gofal
Cymdeithasol a Chwaraeon

Inquiry into the Priorities for the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

Ymateb gan: Comisiynydd Pobl Hŷn Cymru

Response from: Older People's Commissioner



Dai Lloyd AM
Chair
Health, Social Care and Sport Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Cambrian Buildings
Mount Stuart Square
Cardiff CF10 5FL

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26 August 2016

Dear Dai Lloyd AM,

Priorities for the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

I am writing in response to the opportunity to comment on the priorities of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee.

I welcome the priorities that the Committee has already identified, many of which are highly relevant to the lives of older people across Wales. However, there are four areas in particular which are very closely aligned to my own forward work plan and Framework for Action, and I would strongly support the Committee undertaking work in these areas.

Integration of Health and Social Care services:

Previous work that I have undertaken into the integration of health and social care services and the impact on older people can be found [here](#).

Primary Care:

I am currently undertaking work to understand older people's access to and experiences of GP services, through group discussion sessions and a questionnaire. I will publish a report in early 2017. Therefore, I feel that work by the Committee in this area would be well placed after the publication of my report.



Older People's Commissioner for Wales

Comisiynydd Pobl Hŷn Cymru

Use of antipsychotic medication in care homes:

☎ 029 2044 5030

☎ 08442 64 06 80

www.olderpeoplewales.com

The Committee rightly identifies the concerns that I raised about the inappropriate use of antipsychotics in my [care home review](#). The proposal for the Committee to assess the scale of the problem, and examine possible solutions is to be welcomed. I will be undertaking a 'care home review follow up' over the next year.

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Loneliness and isolation among older people:

The Committee rightly identifies the concerns that I raised regarding levels of loneliness and isolation amongst older people, which should be seen as a key public health issue. Loneliness and isolation is one of the five key strands of the Ageing Well in Wales programme, for which I am Chair. Further information can be found [here](#).

Please follow these links to a briefing outlining my own [forward work plan](#), my [Impact and Reach Report 2015-16](#) and [Framework for Action](#) as these may provide useful background information to the Committee's work. Do let me know if you would like a further discussion about any of the work I have identified in this letter as the Committee's planning takes place.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Rochira
Older People's Commissioner for Wales

