

3 October 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

Inquiry into the cost of caring for an ageing population – Consultation

The Finance Committee is undertaking an inquiry into the cost of caring for an ageing population. Further details about the inquiry can be found on the Assembly's website:

<http://www.senedd.assembly.wales/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=20013>

The terms of reference for the inquiry can be found in Annexe 1.

Invitation to contribute to the inquiry

The Committee welcomes evidence from those with an interest in this subject. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please provide a brief description of the role of your organisation.

The National Assembly for Wales has two official languages, Welsh and English. In line with the Assembly's Official Languages Scheme, the Committee requests that documents or written responses to consultations intended for publication or use in National Assembly proceedings are submitted bilingually. When documents or written responses are not submitted bilingually, we will publish in the language submitted, stating that it has been received in that language only.

We expect other organisations to implement their own standards or schemes and to comply with their statutory obligations.

The Committee will consider responses to the inquiry and hold oral evidence sessions during the Spring term.

If you wish to submit evidence, please send an electronic copy of your submission to: **seneddfinance@assembly.wales**

Alternatively, you can write to:

Committee Clerk
Finance Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA.



Submissions should arrive by 31 January 2018. It may not be possible to take into account responses received after this date. **Guidance** for those providing evidence for committees is available.

We would be grateful if you could forward a copy of the letter to any individuals or organisations that might like to contribute to the inquiry. A copy of this letter has been placed on the Assembly's website with an open invitation to submit views.

Disclosure of Information

The Assembly's policy on disclosure of information can be accessed [here](#), please ensure that you have considered these details carefully before submitting information to the Committee. Alternatively a hard copy of this policy can be requested by contacting the Clerk, Bethan Davies (0300 200 6372 seneddfinance@assembly.wales).

Yours faithfully,



Simon Thomas AC / AM
Cadeirydd / Chair



Annex 1

Terms of reference

The purpose of the inquiry is to assess, in the context of the major economic and strategic challenges facing the Welsh Government in its development of policy, the financial impact of the cost of caring for an ageing population:

- To examine patterns in demand for social care services for those of pension age and the related costs of delivery of residential and non-residential care, taking account of the role of informal carers who provide unpaid services to those requiring care;
- To examine the financial pressures on the social care system, such as increases in wages, automatic pension enrolment and staff recruitment and retention difficulties, including the related financial impacts arising from the UK leaving the European Union;
- To consider the financial impact of current Welsh Government policies – including recent social services legislation and reforms to social care funding – on local authorities, care providers and service users;
- To consider future social care needs and related costs, including the projected increase in the proportion of the population of Wales of pension age;
- To assess the fiscal levers available to the Welsh Government to reform the arrangements for funding social care. This will include the consideration of alternative models, including international examples, for the funding of social care to ensure a good quality, fair and sustainable service in a time of increasing demands on the health and social care systems; and
- To consider the findings and conclusions of the Parliamentary Review.

