

Dai Lloyd AM
Chair, Health, Social Care and Sport
Committee

3 October 2017

Annwyl Dai,

The Finance Committee has agreed to undertake an inquiry into the cost of caring for an ageing population. The inquiry will focus on the related demands on social care services, and not the integration of health and social care services. The terms of reference for the inquiry are:

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

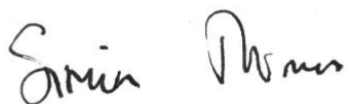
- To consider the findings and conclusions of the Parliamentary Review.

The Committee has agreed to issue a request for written evidence from interested parties and to hold oral evidence sessions early in 2018.

Given your Committee's interest in this area, we would be happy to keep you informed as the inquiry progresses. A representative of your Committee would be welcome to observe our evidence sessions, however I realise that timetabling constraints may prevent this.

Please let me know if you would like any further information about this inquiry, the Clerk will ensure that all relevant information is shared with the Clerk to your Committee.

Yours sincerely



Simon Thomas AM

Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

