

Alun Davies AM

Cabinet Secretary for Local Government and Public
Services
Welsh Government

15 May 2018

Dear Alun

Closure of the Communities First Programme

You'll be aware that our Committee held an inquiry into Communities First – lessons learnt in 2017. The initial report was published in July and the full report followed in October. The debate was held on 25 October.

We note your statement made on 19 April about the closure of the programme. In this statement you highlighted that there has positive, joint working during the transition period but did not provide any detail on what this joint working has achieved. With a lack of information about the impact of the closure of the programme, we are concerned about the number of valuable projects which may have closed, and would be grateful if you could provide an update on:


- The number of projects that are no longer continuing as a result of the closure of Communities First. This should include details of the geographical distribution and the types of programmes which have been discontinued;
- Which projects have been sustained by support from the Legacy Fund, and an assessment of the longer term sustainability of these projects once the Legacy Funding comes to an end;
- Which projects are being continued in some form by other organisations?



- The implementation of recommendation 7, and which projects that are continuing have been assessed as supporting “empowerment”;
- An update on the explanatory work the Welsh Government was undertaking on the feasibility of a longitudinal study (recommendation 10); and
- What adjustments have been made to other relevant Welsh Government programmes, such as Communities for Work, Lift, Flying Start and Families First (recommendation 11)

I would be grateful for a response by 21 June 2018.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John". The letters are cursive and connected.

John Griffiths AM
Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

