

Tim Peppin
Director of Regeneration and Sustainable Development
The Welsh Local Government Association

4 May 2018

Dear Tim

The National Assembly for Wales's Health, Social Care and Sport Committee is currently undertaking an inquiry into physical activity of children and young people in Wales.

Physical inactivity is considered to be the fourth leading risk factor for mortality. The Welsh Government has previously estimated the cost of physical inactivity to Wales as being £650 million per year. We know that active children are more likely to become active adults and we also know the importance of physical activity in tackling obesity.


As part of its inquiry, the Committee has considered the facilities available for use by young people. In particular, we have reflected on the importance of appropriate space for play being taken into account when planning new developments.

We believe that safe and accessible green spaces should be provided where any new substantial housing is to be permitted in order to ensure that a lack of space for play is not a barrier to increasing the levels of physical activity among children in Wales. We are aware of bad practice examples of instances where new housing developments have failed to provide appropriate spaces to play.

We are aware that the Welsh Government is currently consulting on a revised version of Planning Policy Wales (Edition 10) to bring it in line with the Well-being of Future Generations Act. However, we would be grateful to hear your views on what you believe is required to ensure that appropriate green spaces are a key part of all new development planning.



Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David Lloyd". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and 'L'.

Dr Dai Lloyd AM

Chair, Health, Social Care and Sport Committee