

Damien McCann  
Corporate Director for Social Services in Blaenau  
Gwent  
Association of Directors of Social Services Cymru

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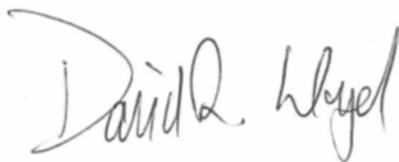
Dear Damien

I am writing further to the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee meeting of 21 November 2018 to which you gave evidence with regard to the Committee's inquiry on the impact of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 in relation to carers.

At that meeting I indicated that the Committee had a number of questions which were not reached and that I would write to you with these following the evidence session. These outstanding questions can be found attached as an annexe.

I would be grateful if you could provide a written response to these questions.

Yours sincerely



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



## Annexe – Outstanding questions

- There have been calls for better data collection on carers, including data on the number of carers requesting information, or the reasons for refusal of assessment. What are the challenges to local authorities and their partners in collecting data on carers and how can it be improved?
- The Committee has heard evidence of diminishing availability of support services, with some carers, who have significant caring commitments, finding themselves ineligible for services. In addition, stricter eligibility criteria for services for the cared for person are believed to be increasing the demands on family carers. What is your response to this? Do the eligibility criteria under the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 work against the interests of carers?
- There was some concern during the scrutiny of the Social Services Bill that its ‘all age’ approach risked marginalising the needs of children and young people. Do you believe the Act provides an effective framework for meeting the distinctive needs of young carers?
- Respite care is highly valued by carers but the evidence suggests that it is becoming increasingly difficult to access. Is this the experience across Wales and is it solely an issue of resources or are there other factors contributing to this?
- What examples are there of early intervention and preventative work with carers across Wales and what scope is there for further developments?
- How should longer term resourcing of carers’ services, in both the statutory and third/independent sectors be addressed?
- Is there a case for a introducing a single grant for carers’ services and having less reliance on short term funding solutions?

