

Ken Skates AC/AM
Gweinidog yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth
Minister for Economy and Transport



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

John Griffiths AM,
Chair
Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

15th October 2019

Dear John,

Thank you for your further letter relating to my response to recommendations 4, 9, 10 and 11 of the Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee's Blue Badge Scheme in Wales: Eligibility and Implementation's report.

I have reviewed my responses and still believe "rejection" accurately reflects the Welsh Government position in terms of where decision sits, or their ability to instigate change proposed within a reasonable timeline. My rejection of these recommendations should not however be seen as my willingness not to take action via alternative interventions.

I have requested officials work closely with local authorities to strengthen consistency in their approach to handling rejected applications. We will also discuss with the authorities whether they are amenable to the expansion of concessionary parking and if so, will provide support to determine if there is an opportunity to do so.

Finally, my officials will continue to engage with local authorities regarding the current guidance and I welcome all opportunities to improve its content or its use and to ensure it remains useful for local authorities.

Yours sincerely

Ken Skates AC/AM
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.