



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref TO/JMSS/00039/23

Mr S G Milsom  
Chair  
CYMRU Older People's Alliance

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10 February 2023

Dear Mr Milsom

Thank you for your email of 20 January to Julie Morgan MS, Deputy Minister for Social Services, on behalf of the Alliance, relaying your initial comments on the Recommendations made by the Expert Group on their published report, "Moving Towards a National Care and Support Service for Wales". I have been asked to reply.

Thank you for expressing the thoughts of the Alliance which were read with great interest and will help to inform future deliberations.

As you would have seen and appreciate, the Expert Group has produced a thorough and detailed report with far-ranging recommendations about how a national care service could be developed. Their forty-five wide ranging recommendations are now being carefully considered, particularly in the context of the very difficult financial situation which has deepened since this work began and the challenges within the health and social care system at present.

Ministers were pleased to read how a number of the recommendations align with the current agenda for reform of the social care sector. This will enable benefits of a stronger national approach to be developed, as, in the context of current financial constraints, we seek to work towards making social care free at the point of need.

A further statement will be made in the next few months once Ministers and the Plaid Cymru Designated Member have determined next steps.

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.

Cathays Park  
Cardiff  
CF10 3NQ

Yours sincerely

**Bethan Jones Edwards**

**Pennaeth Rhaglen Dyfodol Gwasanaethau Gofal / Head of Social Care Futures Programme**

**Y Gyfarwyddiaeth Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ac Integreiddio / Social Services and Integration Directorate**