

Gwenda Thomas AC / AM
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Plant a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: LF/GT/0265/12

Mark Drakeford AM
Chair
Health and Social Care Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

9th
August 2012

Dear Mr Mark,

Thank you for your letter of 30 July relaying the Committee's concerns as to the impact on the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales' (CSSIW) modernisation programme of not now including within the Social Services (Wales) Bill provisions on the regulation and inspection of the social care workforce and of social services in Wales.

I can assure the Committee that the proposals for regulation and inspection of the workforce and services being taken forward outside of the Social Services (Wales) Bill will not affect CSSIW's current moderation programme or the planned timing of its implementation.

The Chief Inspector has confirmed that CSSIW's modernisation programme is based upon introducing key operational changes to its regulation and inspection practice using the existing powers contained within the Care Standards Act 2000 and the range of regulations for particular services made under this. As such the delivery of this programme is not dependent upon either the Social Services (Wales) Bill or the Bill on regulation and inspection that I intend to introduce in due course.

The Committee can, therefore, be assured that CSSIW's modernisation programme will not be adversely affected or delayed by my revised legislative plans in this area as set out in my Written Statement of 28 June on the Social Services (Wales) Bill.

I hope both you and the Committee find this clarification helpful in progressing your inquiry into residential care for older people in Wales.

*Yours sincerely / yn ddifffuant,
Gwenda*

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