

My Ref: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr McGarry

5 October 2017

Councillor Susan Elsmore
Cabinet Member for Social Care & Health
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW



Dear Susan,

Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee – 4 October 2017 – Proposal to Develop a Regional Social Care Training Unit for Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan (WDTU)

As Chair of the Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee, I wish to thank you and officers for attending Committee and providing Members with an opportunity to consider the proposals for a Regional WDTU prior to its consideration by Cabinet at their forthcoming meeting. Members of the Committee have requested that I feed back the following comments and observations to you.

The Committee fully supports the proposal and commends the work undertaken to date. The Committee felt that the move towards a regional working arrangement was a very practical course of action, and were assured that the WDTU would provide a sustainable, long-term solution to maximising training opportunities for social care staff in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan.

The only issue of concern for Members was in relation to the consultation with social care staff across the sector. The Committee accepted the explanations given regarding the low response rate from the consultation undertaken to date, but suggest that a further consultation should be undertaken during the summer of 2018. The Committee felt that the consultation should gauge the views of individuals and organisations on their experiences following the implementation of the new arrangements, and aim to identify what is working well; areas for improvement; and whether needs were being met across the whole region.

Finally, the Committee would like to invite you back to address Members in September 2018, to update Members on the first six months operation of the WDTU, where the Committee would hope to receive an update on the above consultation with internal and external staff.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary McGarry', with a long, sweeping underline.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR MARY M^CGARRY
Chairperson - Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee

Cc: Councillor Graham Hinchey, Cabinet Member for Children & Families
Tony Young, Director of Social Services
Angela Bourge, Operational Manager, Strategy Performance and Resources