

Mark Drakeford AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref MA - P/MD/1453/15

20 December 2015

Dear Colleague,

On 2 November I laid seven codes of practice before the National Assembly for Wales supporting local authorities in delivering their duties under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. Today I am issuing those codes, alongside statutory guidance under the Act on collaboration and partnership working. At the same time, the statutory framework has been substantially completed with the making of the principal remaining regulations under the Act around charging and financial assessment, looked-after and accommodated children and collaboration and partnership. This letter therefore marks a watershed moment in our journey towards our shared approach to social services in Wales: services which are sustainable and which promote the voice and control of the citizen.

Sustained and committed leadership through the Leadership Alliance has underpinned the journey to this point, and the Leadership Group and Citizen Panel have made an invaluable contribution. I am writing to you particularly to acknowledge your contribution to this process, both individually, as leaders, chairs and portfolio holders, and collectively. You have contributed powerfully through the Social Services Policy Group, the Partnership Forum, ably chaired by Gwenda Thomas AM, and most recently through the regional collaboratives, which in their new form as Regional Partnership Boards I expect to be the powerhouses driving delivery of the Act.

It is therefore with confidence that I turn to you to sustain your leadership of this change and focus it on the successful delivery of the new statutory framework which the Welsh Government has put in place. Together we have the chance to lead the creation of a social care system in Wales fit for the twenty-first century, in the form of the Act and its accompanying regulations, codes and guidance on the one hand and the training materials from the Care Council for Wales on the other. I know you will be proud to deliver a service on which so many of our fellow citizens depended on a daily basis.

*Yours sincerely,*

*Mark Drakeford*

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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.