

**SWYDDFA CYMORTH Y CABINET
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Fy Nghyf / My Ref: CM33349
Eich Cyf / Your Ref: Scrutiny/Correspondence
/Cllr McGarry

Dyddiad / Date: 12 February 2016

Councillor Mary McGarry
Chair, Community & Adult Scrutiny Committee
Scrutiny Services
Room 263
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW

Annwyl / Dear Mary

Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee - 06 January 2016

Thank you for your letter dated 08 January 2016. I am pleased that the Members found the presentation useful and I welcome your observations.

I note your recommendation to undertake comparative work with other local authorities regarding Housing Revenue Account debt and repayment ratios. However, I have been advised by officers that it would be more beneficial to do this work post 31 March 2016, once their financial accounts have been published. Due to the fact that a full year under the new self-financing system has not taken place, it would prove difficult to carry out a realistic comparison at this stage. Nevertheless, I will ensure that this work is carried out after that time, and I will then update you further.

I share the concerns of the committee in terms of the current building maintenance framework; and I agree that it is imperative that shortfalls in the current arrangements are addressed when the new framework is put in place. Early work has commenced on this, and workshops have been held with the officers involved in managing the framework on a day-to-day basis so that the benefit of this experience can be fully taken into account during the procurement process.

Thank you for bringing the issue with the signage at Marland House to our attention. I can confirm that new, significantly larger signs have been put in the windows of the old Advice Hub to direct service users to the new Central Library Hub. Hopefully this will avoid any confusion in the future.

ATEBWCH I / PLEASE REPLY TO: Swyddfa Cymorth Y Cabinet / Cabinet Support Office,
Ystafell / Room 514, Neuadd y Sir / County Hall,
Glanfa'r Iwerydd / Atlantic Wharf, Caerdydd / Cardiff,
CF10 4UW Ffon / Tel (029) 2087 2479

I would like to thank the committee for the work undertaken on the deep dive into council housing void management and I welcome the comments and recommendations that have been made. Officers are looking in detail at the report and are preparing a full response to each of the points raised; this response is not yet complete. However, I will ensure that this is forwarded to you as soon as it is ready.

I hope this information is of assistance to you.

Yn gwyir,
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S Elsmore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Councillor / Y Cynghorydd Susan Elsmore
Cabinet Member for Health, Housing & Wellbeing
Aelod Cabinet Dros Lechyd, Tai a Lles