

30 July 2015

Dear Colleague,

The [Health and Social Care Committee](#) is a group of ten Assembly Members from across Wales, who represent the four political parties who make up the Assembly. The Committee's role is to hold the Welsh Government to account on health and social care in Wales, including finance, administration, policy and legislation.

The Committee was set up in June 2011, and will be disbanded at the end of the Fourth Assembly in April 2016, before the Assembly elections in May 2016. It is now gathering views from people across Wales about the past five years, including its ways of working, the work it has done, and the impact it has had. Before the Fifth Assembly starts its work in May 2016, the Committee also wants to hear views about what the key challenges are going to be for health and social care in the next five years.

The Committee wants to hear views from everyone who would like to comment: those who have worked closely with it, those who have never engaged with its work, and everyone in between. **In particular, the Committee would like your views on the questions listed in Annex A to this letter.** Please keep your comments to no more than around 2000 words in total, and make sure that your submission arrives by **Friday 25 September 2015**. It may not be possible to take into account responses received after this date.

If you wish to submit evidence, please send an electronic copy of your submission to SeneddHealth@Assembly.Wales. Alternatively, you can write to: Committee Clerk, Health and Social Care Committee, National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA. You can also use the online form, which is available on our website. More information about how to send in your views is set out in Annex B to this letter.

Please feel free to forward this letter on to anyone else that might like to contribute. A copy of this letter will also be available on the Committee's website.


Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg | We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English



Disclosure of information

You can find further details about how we will use your information at www.assembly.wales/help/privacy/help-inquiry-privacy.htm. Please ensure that you have considered these details carefully before submitting information to the Committee. A hard copy of this policy can be requested by contacting the Clerk.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David F. Rees." The signature is written in a cursive style with a clear, legible font.

David Rees AM

Chair, Health and Social Care Committee



Annex A: Consultation questions

Name:	
Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?	
Organisation (and role if applicable):	
Telephone / Mobile number:	
Email:	

Your consultation response will be used to help inform and shape the Committee's approach to its work. The Committee may, therefore, wish to invite you to provide further evidence at a later date, whether in writing, a formal evidence session, or as part of informal evidence gathering.

Are you happy for the Committee to contact you for this purpose?	Yes	No
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Question 1

Thinking about the past five years, in your view:

<p>– to what extent has the Health and Social Care Committee had an impact on health and social care in Wales?</p>

<p>– what has been the Committee's biggest achievement?</p>

- if the Committee could have done one thing differently, what would it be, and why?

- has the Committee's work struck the right balance between scrutiny of policy, finances and legislation?

Question 2

Looking ahead to the next five years, in your view what will be the three biggest challenges for health and social care in Wales?

1.

2.

3.

Annex B: Guidance for witnesses providing written evidence for committees

The Committee welcomes evidence from both individuals and organisations. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please provide a brief description of the role of your organisation.

Generally, we ask for submissions to be made in writing, because it is normal practice for the National Assembly to publish evidence provided to a Committee on our internet site so that it becomes part of the public record. However, we are also able to accept evidence in audio or video format. The Committee welcomes contributions in English or Welsh, and we ask organisations with Welsh Language policies/schemes to provide bilingual responses, where applicable, in line with their public information policies.

The Assembly is committed to providing accessible information to the widest audience possible. This short guide is to assist witnesses who produce written information for committees. This will enable the Assembly to provide information submitted by third parties in an accessible manner.

- Use plain English and plain Welsh – avoid unnecessary jargon
- Use a minimum of font size 12
- A clear sans serif typeface, such as Lucida Sans
- Do not have writing over graphics, pictures or watermarks
- Colours and contrast – writing should have maximum contrast to the background: dark on light, light on dark
- Do not use block capitals, and minimise use of bold, underlining and italics

Where possible, information should be provided in Microsoft Word to ensure accessibility. Where a scan or pdf is provided, particularly in the case of signed letters or tables of information, the original Word document should be provided along with it.