Julie Morgan AS/MS Y Dirprwy Weinidog Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Deputy Minister for Social Services



Your ref : **WQ 85062**

Rhys ap Owen MS Welsh Parliament Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1SN Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

16 May 2022

Dear Rhys,

You recently tabled the following written question and my response is below.

What assessment has the Minister made of the impact of the COVID pandemic on people with learning disabilities living in supported accommodation? (WQ85062)

The Welsh Government has worked with stakeholders and partners throughout the pandemic to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on people with learning disabilities living in supported accommodation.

This work included ensuring the development of appropriate, bespoke guidance for people living in supported housing and the regular, timely updating of this guidance during the many changes in circumstances and restrictions that occurred.

This engagement included regular meetings with the learning disability housing stakeholder group managed and coordinated by Cymorth Cymru, at one stage weekly meetings with housing providers such as local authorities and registered social landlords. There was separate engagement with third sector learning disability partner groups and the Learning Disability Ministerial Advisory Group to consider and manage the wider impact of Covid.

While no specific evaluation of the impact of COVID-19 on this group within supported accommodation has been undertaken by Welsh Government, wider research and evaluation work undertaken by partners such as the University of South Wales on the overall impact of COVID-19 on people with a learning disability has informed the development of strategic policy priorities for the remainder of the current term of government. These are set out within the forthcoming learning disability action plan which is set to be published later this month.

Yours sincerely

Julie Morgan AS/MS

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Deputy Minister for Social Services

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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.