Lesley Griffiths AS/MS Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ddiwylliant a Chyfiawnder Cymdeithasol Cabinet Secretary for Culture and Social Justice



Eich cyf/Your ref - WQ90199, WQ90201, WQ90202

Andrew RT Davies MS
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15th May 2024

Dear Andrew,

Regarding your written questions WQ90199, WQ90201 and WQ90202, to Jane Hutt MS, then Minister for Social Justice and Chief Whip regarding the Basic Income for Care Leavers in Wales pilot, this has been passed to me to reply as this issue now falls within my Ministerial portfolio.

WQ90199 asked: What plans does the Welsh Government have to assess the impacts of the Universal Basic Income scheme once it's been completed?

We have commissioned an expert team, led by the Children's Social Care Research and Development Centre (CASCADE) at Cardiff University to lead the wide-ranging evaluation of the Basic Income for Care Leavers in Wales pilot.

The evaluation team will produce a series of thematic reports to be published over the course of the four-year research programme (2022-2027). The first report was published in February 2024 <u>Basic income for care leavers in Wales pilot evaluation: annual report 2023 to 2024 | GOV.WALES</u>.

There are also plans to deposit data into the Secure Anonymised Information Linkage (SAIL) databank at Swansea University.

WQ90201 asked: What action is the Welsh Government taking to ensure that people who participate in the Universal Basic Income Scheme can live independently once it's complete?

We have been working closely with our partners to develop a minimum standard of support for each recipient as they transition off the pilot at the end of two years. This builds on the

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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.

existing support and pathway planning already in place for care leavers as they transition into adulthood. Bespoke support for those on the pilot relating to financial wellbeing and general advice through the Single Advice Fund, will be available Young people are encouraged to take up this support throughout the pilot and particularly during the final six months so they can plan for transitioning off basic income.

WQ90202 asked: Does the Welsh Government plan to earmark any money for those who have had negative experiences from the Universal Basic Income Scheme?

Care leavers are supported by their Local Authorities as their corporate parent throughout the pilot and beyond. Care leavers should have detailed pathway plans in place to support them as they transition out of care and as they transition out of the pilot. The Basic Income for Care Leavers in Wales pilot was designed to build upon existing statutory support provided to care-experienced young people. This includes the additional financial advice and wider support we put in place, through the Single Advice Fund.

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS

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