

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Darren Millar MS
Member of the Senedd for Clwyd West
North Wales Business Park
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24 February 2022

Dear Darren,

We established two schemes in 2020 and 2021 to recognise and reward the contribution of staff working in the social care sector who provided essential services to our most vulnerable citizens during the Covid pandemic. The Social Care Workforce Payment scheme in 2020 made payments of £500 to staff working in care homes, domiciliary support services and Personal Assistants paid by direct payments. This scheme included ancillary staff working in care homes.

The second scheme, the NHS and Social Care Financial Recognition Scheme, made payments of £735 to all NHS staff and a much wider range of staff in the social care sector, including supported housing and local authority social services staff. Ancillary staff in care homes were also included in this scheme.

Given the incredibly valuable contribution of catering and cleaning staff in care homes during the pandemic, it was entirely appropriate they were provided with these payments.

The additional payment scheme aligned to the Real Living Wage, which I announced on the 10 February, has a markedly different purpose. It is not another scheme to reward the workforce for their service.

This scheme is specifically aligned with our introduction of the Real Living Wage for social care workers, who are mostly required to register with the professional regulatory body, Social Care Wales. While ancillary staff in care homes and people in other job roles work in the social care sector, they have different responsibilities. They are not delivering personal care services and are not required to register as social care professionals with Social Care Wales.

The additional payment of £1498 is to demonstrate our commitment to social care professionals that, in addition to the introduction of the Real Living Wages, we will make further improvements to terms and conditions of social care jobs and introduce improved

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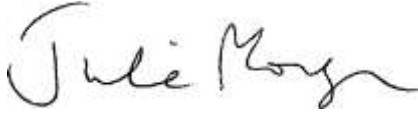
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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.

career pathways and opportunities for progression. This is part of our professionalisation agenda. The additional payment will be made to care workers and managers in registered care homes and domiciliary support services and Personal Assistants paid by direct payments. We want more people to recognise the value of a long and professional career in social care.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Morgan'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Julie Morgan AS/MS

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