



**Y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac
Adfywio**

**Social Justice and Regeneration
Committee**

Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay

Caerdydd / Cardiff

CF99 1NA

Eich cyf / Your ref

Ein cyf / Our ref

Dyddiad / Date 3 July 2003

Dear Colleague

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

HOUSING FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Background

The Social Justice and Regeneration Committee agreed to carry out a policy review into the housing

needs for older people as part of the wide ranging debate being conducted with the Welsh Assembly Government's "Strategy for Older People in Wales".

Invitations on submissions

The Committee wishes to invite you to contribute to its consideration by providing a written submission setting out your organisation's views on the policies and programmes aimed at housing for older people, including any detailed factual information that may be relevant. There is no prescribed format for submissions, but you may find it helpful to bear in mind the following terms of reference for the review. I have also set out a list of issues that you may wish to address in your response.

The Committee may, in due course, wish to invite you to give an oral presentation in support of your written submission.

Terms of reference

The Terms of Reference for the review are:

- *The current provision of housing for older people in Wales;*
- *In the light of the ageing housing stock and other considerations, what is required to allow existing older residents to remain in their own home;*
- *What new provision is needed to cater for the needs of an ageing population*

Issues to be addressed

In taking forward the review, the Committee will be considering the following questions (this is not an exhaustive list but is intended to provide a flavour of the sorts of issues the Committee will wish to address):

1. Mechanisms to enable older people to remain in their own homes

- Exploration of a workable model for an Equity Release Scheme appropriate to the needs of people in Wales
- Improving the effectiveness of the adaptation service and reducing waiting times.
- Investigating the opportunities for funding housing related projects with health money (e.g. from Local Health Boards) such as Care and Repair schemes and Adapted Housing Registers and the use of pooled budgets under Health Act 1999 Flexibilities
- The role and funding of domiciliary care services
- Consideration of reversion schemes
- Consideration of the link with Communities First
- Care homes and Homes for the Community

2. New provision to cater for the needs of an ageing population

The role and future of sheltered housing

- Co-ordinating sheltered housing with other care schemes
- The role of new technology
- Retirement villages
- Best practices elsewhere – the UK
- Best practices regarding the flexibility of design.

Publication of Responses

Unless contributors ask for their submission to remain confidential, the Committee intends that all responses will be available for public scrutiny.

Timetable

I would be grateful if you could forward any submission you may wish to make to me by **Friday 26th September 2003**.

For your information, the Committee has invited submissions from those on the attached list. In addition, a copy of this letter has been placed on the National Assembly's web-site with an open invitation to submit views.

Yours sincerely

Roger Chaffey

Clerk – Social Justice and Regeneration Committee

