

Ann Jones AM
Chair of the Local Government and Public
Services Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Ein cyf /Our Ref:

Eich cyf /Your Ref

Dyddiad /Date: August 2004

Dear Ms Jones

COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO PUBLIC SERVICES REGULATION AND INSPECTION REGIME

You wrote to me on 27 May asking for views to contribute to your Committee's inquiry.

CSIW regulates about 7,000 social care, early years and private and voluntary health care services across Wales.

Responsibility for making regulations relevant to these services rests with the National Assembly for Wales. The Welsh Assembly Government has also made a range of national minimum standards. CSIW is an operationally independent division of the National Assembly responsible for ensuring that the people of Wales receive the quality of services contained in the regulations and national minimum standards. CSIW registers and inspects services, investigates complaints and has powers of enforcement. Its decisions are open to challenge through the Independent Care Standards Tribunal. This is chaired by a High Court Judge.

CSIW produces an annual report on what it has found out about regulated services and how we have carried out our responsibilities. I thought that the most helpful way of assisting the committee in its work would be to enclose a copy of the 2002-2003 report that covered our first year of operation. I will be publishing our second annual report covering 2003-2004 in the early autumn. This will be circulated to all Assembly Members.

ASGC

Swyddfa Cenedlaethol 4-5 Cwrt Charnwood Heol Billingsley Parc Nantgarw Nantgarw CF15 7QZ CSIW

National Office 4-5 Charnwood Court Heol Billingsley Parc Nantgarw Nantgarw CF15 7QZ

Ffôn / Tel: 01443 848450 Ffacs / Fax: 01443 848472 Ebost / Email: CSIW_National_Office@Wales.GSI.gov.uk I am of course happy to appear before the Committee to answer any questions about CSIW, how we approach regulation and the lessons we have learnt over the past two years if that would assist the inquiry.

I am happy for this response to be published.

Yours sincerely

ROB PICKFORD

Chief Executive