

# Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION

ADRAN GWASANAETHAU CYMDEITHASOL

...yn gofalu i wneud gwahaniaeth

Minaeron, Godre Rhiw Goch, Aberaeron, SA46 0DY



# CEREDIGION County Council

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

...taking care to make a difference

Minaeron, Vicarage Hill, Aberaeron, SA46 0DY

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Cyfarwyddwr

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Mr William Powell, AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CARDIFF  
CF99 1NA

Dyddiad  
Date

7 November 2012

Gofynnwch am  
Please ask for

Mrs Sue Darnbrook

Llinell Uniongyrchol  
Direct line

01545 572694

FY nghyf  
My ref

SD/JVJ

Eich cyf  
Your ref

Dear Mr Powell,

**Re: Aberystwyth Centre, Town Hall**

Thank you for your letter dated 10 October 2012.

I am able to confirm that arrangements for an externally validated review of the Aberystwyth Day Centre have now been made and the review will be completed by April 2013. Since the opening of the Day Centre, a process of ongoing review and evaluation of the service has been undertaken, with service users and staff and I am very pleased to report that feedback from both has been consistently positive.

With regards to the lack of a pedestrian crossing, we have spoken to the Department of Highways, Property and Works and can confirm the following comments were received from them:-

- *"consultation would be required with the police, public notice and written notification to the Welsh Government.*
- *a formal assessment would need to be undertaken beforehand, to ascertain which type of crossing option may be appropriate.*
- *cost depends on what kind of crossing (e.g. zebra, pelican, toucan etc.) is deemed appropriate by the assessment. I guess it may range from about ten to fifty thousand pounds.*
- *timescale would be around 6 months or so, possibly longer, again this is quite dependent on the type of crossing, and what works on the footways and approaches may be necessary.*

*I would say from knowledge of the location, unless the new facilities are likely to generate a quite significant increase in pedestrian and traffic movements, it would seem unlikely that this County Road location would meet any of the criteria (e.g. even for a zebra crossing)"*

A design for a covered entrance to the building has been prepared by the architect but there are concerns regarding the effectiveness of the design, in providing adequate shelter. An alternative option of providing a canopy to the side entrance has also been considered but this would have drawbacks in its proximity to the area within the building used by the Day Centre. The matter is being considered further on 1<sup>st</sup> November. I can reassure you that the length of the ramp is compliant with all DDA requirements and

service users are competently managing to use the ramp.

Our corporate passenger transport unit have been in consultation with bus service contractors regarding the possibility of re-routing services via the Day Centre. I can confirm that since the beginning of September, the following bus routes go via the Day Centre - 306 (hourly) and 501a (twice per day) and the bus routes that now go via North Road - 302 (hourly), 03 (every 20 minutes).

The new Day Centre is and will remain a service for referred service users only. As a Council we will continue to work with the local communities to develop social engagement opportunities for older people, building on the already existing social engagement opportunities available, such as, the Aberystwyth Football Club Luncheon club, Tregaron Luncheon Club, etc.

We are committed to providing services which ensure the dignity of care of the service user and we would therefore want in the first instance to enable bathing to take place within the privacy of the service users' own home. If this is impossible then this service would be provided within one of our own in-house homes and only as a last resort and usually only on a temporary basis, would people be bathed in a day centre. I can confirm that all current service users have now been provided with appropriate alternative bathing services.

I am of course very pleased, at a time of financial restraint (particularly in relation to non-statutory services), that the Council has been able to invest in this new purpose-adapted modern resource, linked to the new library and archives facilities on-site which has significantly enhanced the service user experience of the Day Centre.

I trust that you find this information helpful. I would be grateful if you could share with Ceredigion County Council the findings and recommendations of your Petitions Committee in relation to the Aberystwyth Day Centre at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely



**Mrs Sue Darnbrook**  
**Assistant Director Adult and Mental Health Services**