

Dear John

I want to offer my warm congratulations on your election as Chair of the Local Government and Housing Committee. The experience that you bring to the role will be invaluable and we look forward to working with you and your team in the months ahead.

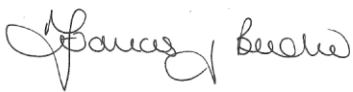
As you know, Llamau is the leading homelessness charity in Wales, supporting the most vulnerable young people and women. Over the last 30 years, we have supported over 67,000 young people, women and their children who are either homeless or facing homelessness. Many people think our job is simply to provide suitable accommodation - a safe place to stay - but it is very clear to us that for most people who are facing homelessness, their problems are far more complex than just a lack of permanent shelter.

In 2017, with the support of you and many other Senedd members, we launched the End Youth Homelessness Cymru campaign and at the heart of that work we are looking at preventative measures and specialised housing options which ensure that people are supported as needed and that episodes of homelessness are rare, brief and non-recurrent. There is much work being undertaken by both the Welsh Government and Local Government in Wales and the extra resources provided to tackle homelessness during the pandemic is to be welcomed. There is still much more to do though.

I would very much welcome an early opportunity to discuss this agenda with you and your committee clerks and hope that it might provide useful context for the committee's deliberations at the beginning of this Senedd term. If an informal session as a scene setter for all committee members would be helpful during the early stages of the committee's work, we would also be very happy to work with you to arrange that.

I know that there will be considerable demands on your diary but very much hope that a meeting in the next few weeks will be possible and look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,



**Frances**