## Gwenda Thomas Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol Deputy Minister for Social Services



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-288 Ein cyf/Our ref GT/00233/11

Clerking Team
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
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23rd. April 2011

I refer to your letter of 18 March, and the correspondence enclosed from Disability Wales in support of their petition for a National Strategy for Independent Living.

I note the points raised by Disability Wales, and can fully understand their desire for a National Strategy on Independent Living. However, as I outlined in my letter of 22 February the Equality Act 2010 marks a change in the equality landscape and we believe that taking this work forward within the new legislative context will ensure that positive outcomes are effectively delivered in Wales across all Welsh Assembly Government portfolios.

Yours sincerely

**Gwenda Thomas**