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Alun Ffred Jones AM
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3 December 2014

Legislating for a 'health in all policies' approach through the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Bill

Dear Alun Ffred Jones AM,

We welcome the recent publication by the Environment and Sustainability Committee of the Stage 1 Report on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Bill. We would, in particular, wish to express our support for recommendations 29 and 30 of the report which refer to the need for the Bill to be improved regarding its ability to deliver a 'health in all policies' approach.

As you may be aware, the idea of introducing a 'health in all policies' approach was consulted upon favourably by the Welsh Government in 2012 as part of the then Public Health Green Paper. The Minister for Health and Social Services, subsequently indicated in his Ministerial foreword to the Public Health White Paper earlier this year that the approach would now be delivered through the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Bill.

However, our view is that the concept has not been sufficiently taken forward by the Bill in the way it has been initially drafted and we therefore welcome the fact that the Environment and Sustainability Committee has now concluded it shares this concern.

In the Public Health Green Paper, the concept of a 'health in all policies' approach was described as testing *"any new policy to assess its impact on health, in order to minimise any damage and increase any benefit it might cause"*. We very much support such an approach to delivering 'health in all policies'.

We therefore hope that any amendments to the Bill that may now be considered to take forward recommendations 29 and 30 of the Stage 1 report will therefore deliver a 'health in all policies' approach

Ysgrifennydd Cymreig/Welsh Secretary:

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along the lines of this previously considered definition. We hope we can secure your support for such an approach to now be incorporated into the Bill.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr Stephen Monaghan
Chair, Welsh Council Legislation Subcommittee