

Gwenda Thomas AC / AM  
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Plant a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref GT/05187/12

William Powell AM  
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13<sup>th</sup> March 2012

*Dear William,*

Thank you for your correspondence date the 27 February regarding the Petition you have received about the closure of the Park Avenue Day Centre in Aberystwyth. As such I have sought advice from the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales. The powers and functions of the Inspectorate enable them to review local authority social services at a local and national level, to inform the public whether services are up to standard, to promote improvement of services and to help safeguard the interest of vulnerable people who use services and their carers.

From your correspondence I can clearly see that the day centre is a much used facility in the community and importantly a valued service for older people. The Petitioners are concerned that the proposed alternative premises is going to impact negatively on access for all and will change the way the service has traditionally functioned. I note that the Petitioners have also raised issues about the consultation process. The decision on how Ceredigion County Council provides its services is an issue for that authority and is a matter that neither the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales nor myself as the Deputy Minister can become involved with or intervene in.

However the Care and Social Services Inspectorate will note your views as part of their role in assessing the range and quality of services provided by the council's social services department. In this respect I am aware that the council is looking at a new model of service provision for the future. It is important that the council know your concerns directly and I therefore suggest that you forward your concerns to Mr Parry Davies, Director of Social Services for Ceredigion County Council.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

*Yours sincerely,  
Gwenda.*

**Gwenda Thomas AC / AM**

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