Pwyllgor Cymunedau, Cydraddoldeb a Llywodraeth Leol

Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee

Carl Sargeant, AM Minister for Local Government National Assembly for Wales Cardiff Bay CF99 1NA Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay Caerdydd / Cardiff CF99 1NA

24 April 2012

Dear Carl

Health and Social Care Committee - Inadequate public toilet facilities

You will be aware that the Health and Social Care Committee has recently undertaken an inquiry into public toilet facilities.

The Committee concluded that the public health case for better public toilet provision is strong. Furthermore, the evidence collected by that Committee suggests there is a case for further investigation of local authority provision of public toilet facilities.

The Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee considered and noted the letter relating to this issue in its meeting. In light of the contents of the letter, I felt that it would be appropriate to write to you to seek further information on the local government aspect of this issue.

I would be grateful, therefore, if you could provide me with an update in relation to local authority provision of public toilet facilities. In particular, I would be grateful if your response could address the following:

 Does the Welsh Government have any involvement in strategic level decisions relating to public toilet provision?

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- Does the Welsh Government issue guidelines to local authorities on provision of public toilet facilities, including levels of provision?
- Does the Welsh Government monitor or have a role in reviewing the levels of provision, to ensure that they are appropriate?
- What mechanisms are available to ensure that local authorities provide an appropriate level of access to public toilet facilities?

Thank you in advance for providing this information to the Committee, which I will be sharing with the Chair of the Health and Social Care Committee. I look forward to receiving your response in due course.

Yours sincerely

Ann Jones AC / AM Cadeirydd / Chair