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Lynne Neagle AS

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Iechyd Meddwl a Llesiant

Senedd Cymru

Bae Caerdydd

Caerdydd

CF99 1SN

26.04.22

Annwyl / Dear Lynne,

Ysgrifennaf atoch fel Cadeirydd y Grŵp Trawsbleidiol ar Ddementia yn y Senedd. Yn gyntaf, hoffwn ddiolch i chi, ar ran y grŵp, am eich gwaith diflino ac ymroddedig yn ystod eich cyfnod fel Cadeirydd y Grŵp. Mae'r Grŵp yn edrych ymlaen at weithio gyda chi a'ch tîm i sicrhau bod dementia'n parhau'n flaenoriaeth wrth inni ddod allan o'r pandemig.

Mae'r ddadl ar Ddementia a welwyd yn y Senedd y llynedd wedi bod yn bwynt trafod allweddol ymhlith aelodau'r Grŵp. Rwy'n siŵr y byddech yn cytuno â mi fod y ddadl wedi bod yn enghraifft o drafodaeth gadarnhaol, onest ac agored am wir effaith y pandemig ar bobl sy'n byw gyda neu yr heffeithir arnynt gan ddementia yng Nghymru. Roedd aelodau'r grŵp yn hynod o falch bod y cynnig wedi'i basio'n heb wrthwynebiad, a wnaeth dangos fod cytundeb ar draws pleidiau yn wir yn bosibl ar faterion mor bwysig.

Cyfeiriodd y cynnig yn benodol hefyd at bwysigrwydd gofalwyr di-dâl o ran sicrhau bod y system gofal cymdeithasol yng Nghymru yn gallu gweithredu yn ystod y pandemig.

Ers i'r pandemig ddechrau, mae gofalwyr di-dâl wedi darparu dros gwerth £135bn o ofal. Am lawer rhy hir, cymerwyd y cyfraniad hwn yn ganiataol - yn enwedig nawr, pan mae effaith y pandemig wedi achosi i lawer o ofalwyr di-dâl i deimlo'n ynysig gan ei gwneud hi'n anodd ymdopi i lawer o bobl.

Hoffwn ofyn am ddiweddariad, ar ran y grŵp, yn dilyn dadl y Senedd y llynedd. Fel y gwyddoch, mi wnaeth y cynnig alw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i:

a) ariannu ymchwil i ddatblygu dulliau diagnostig cywir i sicrhau bod pobl sy'n cael diagnosis o ddementia yn gallu cael y cymorth cywir ar unwaith ar ôl cael diagnosis;

b) ariannu cymorth ôl-ddiagnostig ar gyfer pob math o ddementia ledled Cymru;

c) sefydlu arsyllfa ddata dementia genedlaethol i sicrhau cywirdeb mewn data dementia a chasglu, dadansoddi a lledaenu data ar ddementia i bob darparwr gwasanaeth sy'n dymuno cael gafael ar ddata i helpu i gynllunio a darparu gwasanaethau dementia ledled Cymru.

Rwy’n ddiolchgar am eich Datganiad Ysgrifenedig o’r 5ed o Ebrill sy’n rhoi’r diweddariad ar ofal dementia yng Nghymru, a byddaf yn rhannu’r diweddariad hwn gydag aelodau’r grŵp.

Mae’r datganiad yn dweud fod galwadau diweddar am Arsyllfa Ddata Genedlaethol ar gyfer Dementia yn cyd-fynd yn llwyr â bwriad polisi presennol Llywodraeth Cymru, fodd bynnag, mae’r datganiad yn mynd ymlaen i ddweud eich bod chi’n credu y gallwch gyflawni'r un canlyniadau drwy ddatblygu safonau data a chryfhau ein cysylltiadau â'r byd academaidd. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallech roi rhagor o wybodaeth am y gwaith hwn.

Yn olaf, hoffwn hefyd estyn gwahoddiad i chi fynychu cyfarfod o'r GTB ar Ddementia; rydw i’n gwybod y byddai aelodau’r grŵp yn ddiolchgar am y cyfle i glywed gennych yn uniongyrchol am eich gwaith o fewn Llywodraeth Cymru ar ofal dementia. Os yw hyn yn rhywbeth y byddai o ddiddordeb i chi ddiddordeb, mi wna i ofyn i ysgrifenyddiaeth y Grŵp gysylltu â’ch swyddfa i drefnu dyddiad.

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Chair of the Cross Party Group on Dementia in the Senedd. Firstly, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you, on behalf of the group, for your tireless and dedicated work during your time as the Group's Chair. The Group looks forward to working with you and your team to ensure that dementia remains a priority as we come out of the pandemic.

The Senedd's debate on Dementia which took place last year has been a key discussion point amongst members of the Group. I'm sure that you would agree with me that what we saw was a positive, honest and open discussion about the extent of the impact of the pandemic on people living with and affected by dementia in Wales. Members were particularly pleased that the motion was passed unopposed, which demonstrated that cross-party agreement is indeed possible on such important matters.

The motion also referred specifically to the importance of unpaid carers in ensuring that the social care system in Wales was able to operate during the pandemic.

Since the pandemic began, unpaid carers have provided over £135bn worth of care. For far too long, this contribution has been taken for granted- particularly now, when the pandemic has left many unpaid carers feeling isolated and struggling to cope.

I would like to ask for an update on behalf of the group following on from the Senedd debate last year.

As you know, the motion which passed called on the Welsh Government to:

a) fund research into developing accurate diagnostic tools to ensure that people who receive a diagnosis of dementia can access the correct support immediately post diagnosis;

b) fund post diagnostic support for all types of dementia across Wales;

c) establish a national dementia data observatory to ensure accuracy in dementia data and to collect, analyse and disseminate data on dementia to all service providers wishing to access data to help plan and deliver dementia services across Wales.

I am grateful for your Written Statement from the 5th April which provides an update on dementia care in Wales, and I will be sharing this update with Members of the group.

This statement mentions that calls for a National Dementia Data Observatory are entirely in line with the Welsh Government's current policy intent, however, the

statement mentions that you believe that you can achieve the same outcomes by developing data standards and strengthening our links with academia. I would be grateful if you could provide some further information about this work.

Finally, I would also like to extend an invitation for you to attend a meeting of the CPG on Dementia; I know that Members of the group would be grateful for the opportunity to hear from you directly about the ongoing work within Welsh Government on dementia care. If this is something that you would be interested in doing, I will ask for the Group’s secretariat to contact your office to arrange a date.

Cofion gorau

Rhys ab Owen AS/MS

Aelod o’r Senedd dros Ganol De Cymru
Member of the Senedd for South Wales Central

Cadeirydd y Grŵp Trawsbleidiol ar Ddementia

Chair of the Cross Party Group on Dementia