

Alun Davies AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a
Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus
Cabinet Secretary for Local Government and Public
Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-800
Ein cyf/Our ref ARD/00212/18

David John Rowlands AM
Chair - Petitions committee.
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk

16th April 2018

David,

Thank you for your further correspondence of 12 March, regarding the petition from Nicola Hester seeking the appointment of a Welsh Veterans' Commissioner for the health and wellbeing of wounded, injured, sick and homeless veterans.

I attended both the Armed Forces Expert Group and the Cross-Party Group for the Armed Forces and Cadets. I listened to the comparative discussions on the value of appointing a Veterans' Commissioner for Wales. I am considering the findings, and I will issue a Written Statement on my considered response in due course.

The Armed Forces Expert Group is unique to Wales. It is seen as an example of good practice from within military service charities and other public service organisations. The Group consists of a cross-section of military, public and third sector charities which discuss issues affecting the Armed Forces community, and solutions to providing services and support that meets their needs. The minutes of the meetings are published on the Welsh Government's website and can be accessed at: <http://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/communities/safety/armedforces/armed-forces-expert-group/?lang=en>

All Local Authorities in Wales have Armed Forces Champions, who, when contacted should assist the petitioner and others, in accessing Local and Regional Fora to contribute to discussions pertaining to services and support for the Armed Forces community.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

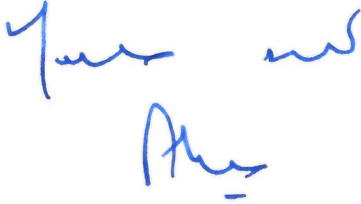
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Through the WLGA there are structures in place to ensure issues and good practice raised at the Local and Regional Fora are discussed at the Armed Forces Expert Group meetings.

The WLGA representative contact who will be able to signpost the petitioner to her relevant Local Authority is Barry Williams at: barry.williams@wlga.gov.uk

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alun Davies', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

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