

Leighton Andrews AC/AM
Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Adfywio
Deputy Minister for Regeneration



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref LA/00165/08

Helen Mary Jones AM
Chair
Children and Young People Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

9 September 2008

Dear Helen

Thank you for your letter of 15 July in relation to your current inquiry into child poverty and specifically the role of the Communities First programme in tackling child poverty. May I first apologise for the length of time that it has taken for me to respond, this was due to an administrative oversight.

As I confirmed when I gave evidence to the Committee on 8 May I believe that, as we move to a new outcome focused phase of the Communities First programme, there is much that the Partnerships can do to tackle child poverty at the local level.

Many Communities First partnerships have already undertaken important work to support children and young people in Wales and have also contributed in other ways to reducing child poverty in our most disadvantaged areas.

As we encourage Partnerships to move forward on action to tackle child poverty it will be important to ensure that they understand their potential role in what is a very complex and cross cutting agenda. It will also be crucial for Communities First Partnerships to understand what action it is that they can take at the local level that will contribute to our shared aim of reducing all forms of child poverty.

I am clear that the Assembly Government must ensure that Partnerships are fully supported to achieve what is expected of them in relation to the child poverty aspect of the new Communities First Vision Framework. I confirm that guidance will be developed over the next few months that will help meet this objective and I will ensure that your Committee has sight of the guidance once finalised.

Yours sincerely,

Leighton Andrews AM
Deputy Minister for Regeneration

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Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

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