Lesley Griffiths AS/MS

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ddiwylliant a Chyfiawnder Cymdeithasol Lesley Griffiths MS, Cabinet Secretary for Culture and Social Justice



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30 May 2024

Dear Andrew

I apologise for the delay in replying to you on your Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) for Cycle 2 (25 February 2016 – 24 February 2022. This was due to significant staff shortages.

I have now considered your GTAA and approved its content in accordance with section 102 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014. The Local Authority is now required to publish the approved assessment.

It was pleasing to see you were able to capture the views of 56 households through your GTAA, of which 45 were directly through individual household interviews. You demonstrated good awareness towards cultural sensitivities by appointing trained personnel who were familiar with working with the Gypsy and Traveller community to undertake the fieldwork. This was evident in the level of engagement secured through the GTAA.

Whilst you did not have a member of the Gypsy and Traveller community on your steering group, your Gypsy and Traveller liaison officer was able to provide helpful feedback through their knowledge of the local area and relationship with the community. In preparation for the Cycle 3 GTAA, I suggest you consider whether these relationships could be further strengthened to extend the membership of the steering group to community representative organisations and members of the community themselves.

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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.

You will have received notification from my officials regarding the intention to undertake a comprehensive review of the GTAA process and associated documentation. This review seeks to ensure lessons learned from undertaking Cycle 1 and Cycle 2 GTAAs and associated scrutiny can be consistently applied to improve the quality across Wales. Officials will be in touch to outline next steps and how you can participate in the review.

Please note a Local Authority's existing approved GTAA remains valid until it is superseded by the next GTAA which is approved in relation to the Authority from time to time. Therefore, irrespective of whether the Authority has submitted a new GTAA for approval, the Authority remains under a statutory duty to meet any outstanding need which has been identified in the existing approved GTAA up to the date the next GTAA is approved.

The Local Authority's progress towards meeting the identified needs in each approved GTAA will be monitored by the Welsh Government and I look forward to assessing progress.

Yours sincerely

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS

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