Sioned Rees Health & Social Services	Alex Slade Deputy Director – Primary Care

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

To:

Health Boards and Trusts Directors of Primary Care
Health Boards and Trusts Welsh Language Officers

Ein Cyf/Our Ref: SR/AS

10 October 2019

Dear Colleague

The National Assembly for Wales Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee has recently published its report following scrutiny of the National Health Service (Welsh Language in Primary Care Services) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2019.

The report makes eight recommendations to Welsh Government including a recommendation that:

'The Welsh Government should undertake a communications campaign to educate independent primary care providers of their new duties. This campaign should promote the opportunities for Welsh speakers as a result of these duties and clarify the extent to which service providers are required to converse in Welsh'

The Minister for Health and Social Services will respond in due course to the recommendations. In the meantime we felt it would be helpful to explain the importance of the duties and how they will promote further awareness and support development of Welsh language in delivering health services.

The Welsh Government is in the early stages of developing a Welsh Language Toolkit for the Primary Care Sector. The toolkit is aimed at supporting the sector and promoting the Welsh language by following the principles of the More than Just Words strategic framework and the 'Active Officer'. We thought in light of the recommendations in the Committee report that it would be useful to develop a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) fact sheet to support and raise awareness in the interim as we work on the development of the toolkit.

The FAQ fact sheet is attached at Annex A.

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.

Sarn Mynach
Llandudno Junction • Cyffordd
Llandudno
Conwy
LL31 9RZ

BUDDSODDWYR MEWN POBL | INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

I hope the fact sheet is a helpful starting point. If you think we need to add further information in the fact sheet or wish to be engaged in developing the toolkit, please contact us on UnedPolisirGymraegIGCWelshLanguagePolicyUnitHSS@gov.wales

We both hope the update provided is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Alex Slade
Dirprwy Gyfarwyddwr – Gofal Sylfaenol/
Deputy Director – Primary Care

Sioned Rees
Iechyd a Gwasanaethau
Cymdeithasol/ Health and
Social Services