

Ein cyf/Our ref JM/00397/20

Helena Herklots CBE
Older People's Commissioner for Wales
REDACTED (SECTION 40)

12 May 2020

Dear Helena,

Thank you for your correspondence of 21 April to the Deputy Minister and Chief Whip about the positive work of the new action group to stop the abuse of older people and to support those at risk of or experiencing abuse. I am responding as safeguarding of children and adults falls within my portfolio.

I greatly appreciate the important work that you are doing at this particularly difficult time. While it is important to note that services aimed at safeguarding people at risk of abuse or neglect remain operational, the Welsh Government has taken the lead in providing support for the Third Sector in Wales. In fact we have gone further in Wales, with the announcement of the £24 million Welsh Government Third Sector Covid-19 Response Fund, details of this funding can be found in a Written Statement issued by the Deputy Minister and Chief Whip on 6 April.

This £24 million fund is significantly more than we will receive as a consequential from the UK Government.

The Welsh Government has also made sure that charities and social businesses suffering a loss in trading income can benefit from the £400 million Economic Resilience Fund.

If you are aware of specific groups needing support who do not qualify for the Economic Resilience Fund, they should be directed to our Third Sector Support, which is being delivered by the WCVA. The Voluntary Services Emergency Fund is supporting volunteering and the Third Sector Resilience Fund is helping to support organisations to stay afloat.

Thank you again for all you are doing at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely

Julie Morgan AS

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services