

Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref WQ86647

Janet Finch-Saunders MS
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1 December 2022

Dear Janet

I write further to my holding reply to your written question WQ86647 tabled on 10 November, as well as the commitment made by the Deputy Minister for Climate Change in plenary on 23 November.

As promised, a copy of this letter will be published on the internet. I also note that the Minister for Health and Social Services has provided a detailed response to the related question you asked in WQ86646.

Given the significant housing pressures we are facing, I would like to assure you that I engage with all Cabinet colleagues, including the Minister for Health and Social Services regularly, to ensure we are maximising opportunities to provide more housing. You may be aware that I introduced a £65m Transitional Accommodation Capital Programme (TACP) to respond flexibly and quickly to the need for longer term accommodation.

This grant funding is being provided to Local Authorities and Registered Social Landlords to support a range of schemes to quickly create accommodation capacity by bringing mothballed properties that would otherwise not be re-let into use. Including remodelling existing accommodation, converting buildings into good-quality accommodation, utilising modern methods of construction and using modular accommodation as a medium-term form of housing on some sites as they are developed.

Of the projects being supported under TACP, more than 400 of these are empty properties that are being brought back into use this year. In total the programme is bringing more than 1,000 additional homes into use over the next 18 months. Almost half of those homes will be long term or permanent homes with the remainder offering good- quality homes for use by individuals and families for a number of years.

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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.

To identify further opportunities to deliver more longer-term accommodation my officials are working across the public sector, including liaising with health colleagues. One avenue being used for this is 'Ystadau Cymru' which was established as a partnership between public and third sector organisations within Wales. This was created by the Welsh Government to enable, support and encourage excellence in public sector collaborative asset management, with representatives from across the spectrum of public service bodies, including NHS Wales.

Ystadau Cymru support and facilitate public sector collaboration opportunities in property and property management across geographical and organisational boundaries. More information regarding the terms of reference for Ystadau Cymru is available on the Welsh Government's web site. <https://gov.wales/ystadau-cymru/terms-reference>

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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