

Jane Hutt AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol, y
Trefnydd a'r Prif Chwip
Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Our Ref: JH/PO/189/26

Jenny Rathbone MS
Chair, Equality and Social Justice Committee

02 April 2026

Dear Jenny,

At my recent appearance before the Committee, I provided an update on progress to implement the Welsh Benefit Charter commitments across the delivery of Welsh benefits. During Phase One of this work, the independent Steering Group has overseen a substantial programme of complex activity. This has demonstrated that, by making effective use of existing data, local authorities can simplify the processes used to determine entitlement to Welsh benefits, reducing barriers to accessing the financial support provided by the Welsh Government.

The progress achieved in Phase One would not have been possible without the collective commitment of local authorities, third sector organisations, the Welsh Local Government Association, and the Welsh Government. I believe this collaborative approach provides a strong and tested model for the successful delivery of future phases of this work.

The Steering Group's Phase One Progress Report was published on 2 April. It sets out the progress made and early lessons emerging from this phase and is available via the following links:

<https://www.gov.wales/streamlining-welsh-benefits-route-map-phase-1-progress-report>
<https://www.llyw.cymru/symleiddio-budd-daliadau-cymru-trywydd-cam-1-adroddiad-cynnydd>

Yours sincerely

Jane Hutt AS/MS
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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.