



**CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA**

Dinas A Sir Abertawe

Councillor Jane Harris  
Cabinet Member, Adults & Vulnerable  
People  
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**Overview &  
Scrutiny**

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**TASS/07**

**9 March 2015**

Dear Councillor Harris

**Transformation of Adult Social Services Scrutiny Panel, 2 March 2015**

The TASS Scrutiny Panel met on March 2nd.

We were very disappointed that the only "Costs" information that we received was a schedule of what the Council pays for accommodation in Private Residential Homes for the elderly. We had expected, at the very least, an analysis of the comparative costs for our own homes.

We also want to study similar information relating to Day Care, Domiciliary care and various other related costs, and the timescale for this is very tight if the Panel is going to be able to make any considered contribution to the TASS review.

It was unfortunate that there was no social services senior management attendance at the meeting. I will liaise with officers on this matter to ensure that the panel's questions during meetings on the reports and evidence provided can be responded to accurately and promptly. It is important that we have a positive and productive working relationship so that the TASS process benefits from the involvement of Scrutiny

Now that we have a separate panel to scrutinise adult services, specifically TASS, we are able to devote an entire meeting to service and policy issues and provide you and the department with our views and recommendations.

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We also remind you that this Panel is the only opportunity that elected members outside the Executive have to participate in a process that will probably lead to very major changes in a vital service that is of great concern to many thousands of those who elect us.

I think we all agree that establishing this panel was a positive step and it is an important element of the decision-making process. Now that we have a clear scrutiny work plan we can ensure that we have the information we need at meetings to add value to the TASS process.

Although there has been widespread debate about the future of Adult Services for a number of years which has had a national dimension the urgent work in Swansea arises from the 2013/14 Budget process, the “Sustainable Swansea” work and some controversial proposals for certain savings.

The Panel feel that there is still a worrying shortage of evidence on which the “pace of travel” if not the “direction of travel” that the department wish to pursue has been based.

Finally, I must remind you that I am still waiting for a response to my Chair’s Letter of February 6<sup>th</sup> which was due on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March. The Panel hopes that you can now give that some priority.

**Yours sincerely**

**CLLR BOB CLAY**  
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