

**To:** Regional Implementation Leads



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

10 May 2017

## **National Population Assessment**

I would like to express my thanks to you and all those involved in the production of the first population assessment reports last month. I recognise all the hard work that went into this important process. These assessments will underpin the planning and delivery of integrated care and support services in Wales that are people-centred, sustainable and preventative. My team is currently in the process of preparing briefing for Welsh Ministers on the contents of the assessments.

We have begun to explore how these seven assessments could inform the production of a national population assessment report. The intention is to produce an accessible, easy-to-read report that will identify the key themes and priorities for care and support across Wales. That national assessment will inform policy development by the Welsh Government and Social Care Wales as well as providing a useful evidence base for other national organisations. It will also likely prove a useful additional resource as you prepare your local area plans.

We have commissioned Social Care Wales to undertake this work and I have asked them to continue to work closely with regional leads in identifying a national narrative based on the contents of your combined population assessment reports. We will be discussing this work with you further via the population assessment network. My expectation is that this national population assessment will be finalised in the Autumn.

We have been clear that given the challenge of undertaking these assessments for the first time it was entirely expected that there were likely to be lessons learned. We are also intending therefore to give constructive feedback on each of the population assessment reports. As you know, there is a requirement for population assessment reports to be kept under review. This feedback will therefore allow for us to set out what has worked well as well as suggest potential issues that could be considered as part of this ongoing review process. Any changes would not necessarily have to be made before the production of joint area plans but may well inform the process of producing those plans. We are also keen to travel to each region to meet with you and colleagues to discuss this further following the letters being issued.

We hope to continue to work closely with you to provide support as we move forward.

I would be grateful if you could share this with the members of your regional partnership boards. I am copying this letter to Naomi Alleyne and Steve Thomas at WLGA, Dave Street as ADSS Cymru lead, Ruth Marks at WCVA and Mario Kreft at Care Forum Wales.

*Chris Stevens*

**Chris Stevens**  
**Head of Partnership and Integration**  
**Social Services and Integration Directorate**