



Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ80231

Leanne Wood MS
Member of the Senedd for the Rhondda

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2 March 2021

Dear Leanne

I am writing in response to WQ80231: *How does the Welsh Government propose to discharge any duty imposed upon it to conduct an immediate public inquiry into the deaths of health and care workers from coronavirus by the Human Rights Act 1998 and Schedule 1, Article 2 of the European Convention on Human Rights?*

I apologise for the delay in responding to this written question.

Every death in Wales caused by the ongoing coronavirus pandemic is a tragedy for each family and a loss to our country.

The Welsh Government is broadly supportive of an overarching independent inquiry on all aspects of the Covid-19 response. It will be challenging and potentially distracting for the public authorities to support an inquiry while the pandemic is ongoing and it will be more difficult to gain a true perspective of these events while they are still underway.

The Prime Minister has said a UK-wide inquiry into the response to the pandemic will be needed and Wales will be part of that. Once the pandemic is properly under control, the path to such an inquiry is likely to be clearer.

You will be aware the Senedd's Health, Social Care and Sport Committee is undertaking its own inquiry into the impact of the Covid-19 outbreak.

Best wishes

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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.