

Eluned Morgan AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ83595

Darren Millar MS
Senedd Member for Clwyd West

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26 October 2021

Dear Darren

Thank you for your recent Written Question asking me what consideration the Welsh Government has given to extending the second round of NHS and social care financial recognition scheme payments to Flying Start and Families First workers given their status as a key part of the social care workforce.

This has been an enormously complex scheme to establish due to the wide range of services, staff roles and several hundred employers within social care – in the statutory, private and third sectors.

We engaged extensively with social care partners with regard to eligibility criteria for the scheme. This included the Association of Directors of Social Services (ADSSC), the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGGA) and trade unions.

I recognise the value of Flying Start and Families First services in delivering early help and intervention to families and in supporting families alongside statutory social work. I appreciate the disappointment felt by staff that we have not included these early help services in the eligibility criteria. We must ensure all schemes are affordable and deliverable and this scheme, when it is completed, will have made payments to circa 200,000 staff across health and social care.

The majority of payments for this scheme have now been made and the rest will be made in the next two months. This scheme made payments to a wider social care staff group than the previous special payment scheme in 2020.

Yours sincerely

Eluned Morgan AS/MS
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Minister for Health and Social Services

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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.