

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

Ein cyf/Our ref WQ97674

Mark Isherwood MS

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19 November 2025

Dear Mark,

I am writing in response to WQ97674, in which you asked "What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the barriers children and young people with cancer face in accessing passported benefits in Wales, in light of Young Lives vs Cancer's report highlighting a 7-month delay between diagnosis and receipt of qualifying benefits?"

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) for children and Personal Independence Payment (PIP) are reserved social security benefits.

Delays in DLA or PIP decisions will have minimal impact on a person's access to the Welsh benefits. This is because DLA and PIP are not always a qualifying benefit and where they are, a person has other ways that they can demonstrate their entitlement. For example, while a higher rate DLA and PIP mobility award can automatically qualify someone for a Blue Badge, a person not in receipt of DLA and PIP can still apply for a Blue Badge under discretionary criteria.

I do recognise the impact on reserved benefits that may be created by the delay in a young person receiving the decision on their DLA or PIP application. For example, their parent or guardian being unable to be awarded Carers Allowance. I intend to raise this issue with DWP Ministers at the Inter-Ministerial Group on Work and Pensions in January 2026.

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.