

Grŵp Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Health and Social Services Group



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

To: Chairs of Area Planning Boards
LA Chief Executives
LHB Chief Executives

Cc: APB Regional Leads
Substance Misuse Advisory Regional Teams

Date: 16 February 2017

Dear Colleague

Reforming local government : Resilient and renewed

You will be aware that the Welsh Government recently published for consultation its White Paper 'Reforming Local Government: Resilient and Renewed'.

The White Paper set out proposals for strengthened regional working and included a series of tests which could guide consideration of the appropriateness of functions for regional working. The White Paper proposes that there should be a footprint for regional working and a framework for sub-regional working. It also describes a strengthened role for councils and councillors; provides a framework for any future voluntary mergers; sets out the role of community councils and explores some options on elections and voting.

Although the responsible authorities within substance misuse Area Planning Boards (APBs) are wider than local government, we would also be interested to hear how the proposals set out in the White Paper could strengthen the governance arrangements of APBs. Therefore, I would be grateful if you could consider this as part of your overall response to the White Paper proposals.

The closing date for responses is **11 April 2017** and further information on the consultation exercise can be found:

<https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/reforming-local-government-resilient-and-renewed>

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracey Breheny', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tracey Breheny
Deputy Director
Substance Misuse Policy, Government and Corporate Business Division