

# CAROLYN THOMAS

NORTH WALES | GOGLEDD CYMRU



Julie Morgan MS  
Deputy Minister for Social Services  
Welsh Government  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA



07541711107



@CarolynThomasMS



@CThomasMS

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Dear Julie Morgan MS

**Re: Student Social Work Grants, Bursaries and Support in Wales**

I am writing to you as Deputy Minister for Social Services in relation to the recently announced increase in financial support for undergraduate and postgraduate students in Wales studying social work degrees via the Social Work Bursary.

I have been campaigning for the UK and Wales to build back from the pandemic through the social care sector because of its ability to provide well-paid green jobs to people in their local area whilst tackling the social care crisis. It is therefore most welcome that the Welsh Government is funding greater financial support for social work students and the future workforce.

I do, however, have concerns that those currently studying and entering their second year will not be eligible for the newly announced increased financial support. This means there is a risk that some students will drop out as they are unable to fund their studies, a risk which is exacerbated by the ongoing and severely debilitating cost-of-living crisis.

These existing students will therefore potentially be unfortunate victims of timing having started their degrees before this funding package was unveiled. Would it be possible for the Welsh Government to extend this support to encompass existing students?

Yours Sincerely,

Member of the Senedd for North Wales