

Children and Young People Committee

Minutes CYP(3)-06-10

Date: 27 April 2010

Time: 9:20 - 11:16

Venue: Committee Room 2, Senedd

Assembly Members in attendance

Helen Mary Jones (Chair), Llanelli
Val Lloyd, Swansea East
Sandy Mewies, Delyn
Joyce Watson, Mid and West Wales

Committee Service

Abigail Phillips, Clerk
Sarah Bartlett, Deputy Clerk
Sian Thomas, Members Research Service
Helen Roberts, Legal Adviser

Others in attendance

Keith Towler - Children's Commissioner
Jane Williams, Lecturer, School of Law, Swansea University
Dr Samantha Clutton, Senior Research and Policy officer, Barnardos Cymru
Trudy Aspinwall, Child Rights Policy Officer, Save the Children Wales
Catriona Williams, Chief Executive Officer, Children in Wales
Lynne Hill, Policy Director, Children in Wales
Sean O'Neill, Policy Director, Children in Wales

1. Introduction, apologies and substitutions

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Committee Members and members of the public.
- 1.2 Apologies were received from Eleanor Burnham and Angela Burns, there were no substitutions. The Chair noted that Sandy Mewies needed to leave the meeting for 30 minutes and Val Lloyd would substitute during this time.
- 1.3 There were no declarations of interest.

2. Proposed Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure - Evidence gathering

Children's Commissioner for Wales

- 2.1 The Commissioner responded to Members' questions.
- 2.2 The Chair thanked the Commissioner for attending the meeting and for submitting written evidence in advance.

Wales NGO Monitoring Group for the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

- 2.3 The witnesses responded to Members' questions.

Actions

Jane Williams agreed to provide a copy of a document entitled 'The Justiciability of Resource Allocation' by Jeff A. King -Modern Law Review, Vol. 70, No. 2, pp. 197-224, March 2007.

- 2.4 The Chair thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting and for submitting written evidence in advance.
- 2.5 The Chair agreed to write to the Children Minister with the Committee's comments on the proposed Measure.

3: Inquiry into Safe places to Play and hang out - evidence gathering

Children in Wales

- 3.1 The witnesses responded to Members questions.

Actions

Children in Wales agreed to provide the Committee with evidence regarding inaccessibility to play in terms of travel distance to play facilities.

3.2 The Chair thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting and for submitting written evidence in advance.

4: Inquiry into the placement of children into care - agreement of draft report

4.1 The Committee resolved to consider this, and the following, item in private, in accordance with Standing Order 10.37(vi).

4.2 The Committee agreed the draft report.

The minutes of the last two meetings were agreed and papers noted.

The Chair reminded members that the next meeting would take place on 11 May.

Committee Service, April 2010