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Agenda Supplement – Equality and Social Justice Committee

Meeting Venue: For further information contact:

Hybrid Rhys Morgan

Meeting date: 20 June 2022 Committee Clerk

Meeting time: 14.30 0300 200 6565

SeneddEquality@senedd.wales

Hybrid - Supplementary pack

Please note the documents below are in addition to those published in the main Agenda and Reports pack for this Meeting

2.6 Letter from the Minister for Social Justice regarding the pre-appointment hearing for the National Adviser(s) for Violence Against Women Gender-based Violence, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

(Pages 1 - 2)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Minister for Social Justice – 17 June 2022



Jane Hutt AS/MS Y Gweinidog Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol Minister for Social Justice



Jenny Rathbone MS Chair Equality and Social Justice Committee

17 June 2022

Dear Jenny,

In accordance with the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV)(Wales) Act 2015 the Welsh Government is seeking to appoint a National Adviser(s) for Violence Against Women Gender-based Violence, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence.

The Committee is currently scheduled to hold a pre-appointment hearing with the preferred candidate for the role on Monday 20 June.

The role of the National Adviser is to provide independent advice to Ministers in order to further the aims of the VAWDASV Act; to prevent gender-based violence and to protect and support victims and survivors. This role is vital to developing our approach and will ensure that we are able to realise the ambition set out in the recently published National Strategy – to make Wales the safest place in Europe to be a woman.

I met with the appointable candidates last week and was impressed by their dedication, passion, experience and achievements however it has not been possible in the timeframe to reach a final decision. It will therefore not be possible for the preferred candidate to attend the pre-appointment hearing on 20th June. While I understand this will be disappointing, I'm sure you agree that it is important to get this appointment right. Doing so will ensure the best outcomes for victims and survivors in Wales as well as the specialist services who work with them.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre: 0300 0604400

Gohebiaeth.Jane.Hutt@llyw.cymru Correspondence.Jane.Hutt@gov.wales

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay Caerdydd • Cardiff CF99 1SN

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.

I am committed to working with you on this appointment and would therefore like to explore the options with you around rescheduling the pre-appointment hearing.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Hutt AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol Minister for Social Justice