

# Agenda – Committee for the Scrutiny of the First Minister

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Meeting Venue:	For further information contact:
Hafren Centre, Newtown	Graeme Francis
Meeting date: 16 February 2018	Committee Clerk
Meeting time: 11.30	0300 200 6565
	<a href="mailto:ScrutinyFM@assembly.wales">ScrutinyFM@assembly.wales</a>

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## 1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

## 2 Ministerial Scrutiny Session – The Food and Drink Industry in Wales (11:30–13:00) (Pages 1 – 14)

Rt. Hon Carwyn Jones, AM – First Minister of Wales

Tim Render, Director, Land, Nature and Food

## 3 Ministerial Scrutiny Session – Topical Matters (13:00–13:30)

Rt. Hon Carwyn Jones, AM – First Minister of Wales

## 4 Papers to Note

(Pages 15 – 28)

## 5 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for the following business:

Item 6

## 6 Discussion of Evidence from Preceding Session



Document is Restricted

Ein cyf/Our ref: MA - P/FM -/4599/17

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Chair  
Committee for the Scrutiny of the First Minister  
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20 December 2017

Dear Ann

I am writing in response to your letter of 23 November, following my attendance at the Committee for the Scrutiny of the First Minister held in Cwmbran on 27 October.

In your letter, you asked some additional questions. I have responded to each point below, under the relevant subject heading.

### **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) Monitoring**

As the signatory to the Convention, it is the UK Government's responsibility to respond to the concluding observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child. As a Government, we have identified the Committee's recommendations which relate to areas devolved to the Welsh Government and we maintain an overview of the progress of our policies, programmes and legislation in those areas. On 11 July this year, the former Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children marked the first anniversary of the publication of the concluding observations, by issuing a written statement outlining the Welsh Government's progress to date. The statement is annexed to this letter, and is available here:

<http://gov.wales/about/cabinet/cabinetstatements/2017/anniversaryuncrcobservationreport/?lang=en>

I agree we should maintain an overview of our policies and programmes for children, and how they improve outcomes for children and young people. However, I do not agree that this means we need a separate Children's Rights Action Plan. Children's rights are an integral part of our approach to developing and implementing policies.

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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.

Through the Welsh Government's national strategy *Prosperity for All*, we have set out our focus on working collaboratively across government. Our five cross-cutting priorities recognise the importance of improving outcomes for children and young people through a focus on the early years, and on better mental health and social care, including early action to help children stay in families where possible and reduce the impact of physical and mental ill-health. A focus on the best interests of children and young people is woven through the strategy.

We are therefore focussed on delivering for children and young people, in line with the principles of the Well-being of Future Generations Act, our programme for government *Taking Wales Forward*, and *Prosperity for All*.

### **Awareness of the UNCRC and Children's Rights**

The Welsh Government's strategy to raise awareness of children's rights is multi-faceted, and includes:

- a Children's Rights website and Twitter account;
- provision of resources about children's rights to schools, youth organisations and others aiming to increase awareness of rights;
- training on children's rights across a number of sectors over a three year period; and
- grant funding to Children in Wales to tackle child poverty, deprivation and raise awareness and understanding of children's rights through improved policy and practice and effective engagement of children and young people and the workforce.

All Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers help to raise awareness of children's rights. The former Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children wrote to Cabinet colleagues earlier this year to highlight the actions they could take to ensure children and young people are consulted on decisions which affect them, and to raise awareness of children's rights. While some of our work involves communicating directly with children and young people, we also provide funding and free resources to organisations who can work with children and young people to help them to become aware and understand their rights. The strategy for raising awareness of children's rights will be reviewed in the coming months, to assess the efficacy of its different aspects, and how it can work best alongside the awareness raising work done by others, including the Children's Commissioner for Wales.

### **Child Rights Impact Assessments (CRIA)**

The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services and Minister for Children and Social Care wrote to the Chair of the Education Children and Young People Committee on 1 December, outlining the Welsh Government's approach to undertaking CRIsAs and explaining the rationale for integrated impact assessments. I have attached a copy of that letter for your information.

CRIsAs are most effective when they are an integral part of the policy development process, so that the impact on children and young people is considered alongside other potential impacts at the outset, and continues to be a part of the thought process as the policy develops.

For this reason, it can be difficult to pinpoint exactly where the CRIA process has had an impact on Welsh Government decisions, as ideally the impact on children and young people will have informed the policy from the outset, well before the publication of a CRIA document. This is an iterative process, rather than a single event.

Some examples of recent Welsh Government policy and legislation where the impact on children and young people has been integral to the policy making process, and where comprehensive CRAs have been published, are:

Additional Learning Needs Bill: the proposals for this Bill were informed by the outcomes of a series of engagement events held for children and young people and their families. The Bill provides for the views, wishes and feelings of children, parents and young people to form a core element of the new system. It emphasises the importance of children's, parents and young people's participation in relation to additional learning needs and provision.

Tobacco Control Delivery Plan for Wales: launched in September, this applies to the whole population, but the CRA specifically considers the fact that the younger a person starts smoking, the greater their risk of smoking related diseases. So the plan specifically aims to make children and young people aware of harms associated with smoking, and the plan will de-normalise smoking as acceptable behaviour to under 18s.

Public Health (Minimum Price for Alcohol) (Wales) Bill: introduced on Monday 23 October, this Bill aims to tackle alcohol related harm by targeting alcohol consumption in hazardous and harmful drinkers (including young people). It recognises positive impacts for children if adults with whom they live reduce excess alcohol consumption, but also possible risks if some adults do not reduce that alcohol consumption resulting in money otherwise earmarked for family or domestic matters being used to meet any increased cost of alcohol. On balance the Welsh Government considers the policy will be beneficial for children and young people but consideration of the possible impacts on children and young people has ensured we are focusing on the wider support some families may need. We will be working closely with local Area Planning Boards ahead of implementation to ensure that there is general awareness of the proposals and that support is provided through existing services as necessary.

### **Children's Rights Following Brexit**

I am committed to ensuring that we give full and careful consideration to the impacts of Brexit on children and young people and their rights.

Alongside research being conducted by a variety of organisations, we are planning our own engagement process, including workshops with young people across Wales, to hear their views. I am pleased that funding has already been agreed for an external organisation(s) to deliver an online consultation and a series of workshops across Wales to enable children and young people to have a voice on Brexit.

I will ensure that this comprehensive package of work delivers on the Welsh Government's commitment to listen to the views of children and young people, as set out in the Securing Wales Future White Paper.

### **Ministerial Advisory Group on Looked After Children**

The Improving Outcomes for Children Ministerial Advisory Group (MAG) reports to, and is accountable to the Minister for Children and Social Care. The MAG provides expert advice to the Minister on a wide range of strategic and operational issues that focus on improving outcomes for children.

The Group is chaired by David Melding AM, who reports directly to the Minister, after each quarterly MAG meeting, on progress with the Improving Outcomes for Children work programme, next steps and its strategic direction. The group has a broad cross-government

and cross-sector membership from all key stakeholders involved in the lives of looked after children.

Collaboration is fundamental to the work of the group which is reflected by its broad membership. The group includes senior officials from across local government, the third sector and Welsh Government, with policy remits that span housing, health, education, youth justice and tackling poverty. Working collaboratively to improve the lives of looked after children is one of the best and most worthwhile opportunities we have to demonstrate the value of cross-government working.

I am pleased that the MAG has a care leaver, Dan Pitt, as its Vice-Chair. Each of the three MAG work streams is chaired by a local authority head of children's services and supported by a vice-chair from the third sector. The role of the work stream chairs is to provide direction and maintain progress over the delivery of the work strands within their work stream.

In recognition of the step change required in outcomes for looked after children, Phil Evans, former Director of Social Services at the Vale of Glamorgan, has been appointed as MAG Change Programme Manager on a part-time basis. His role is to oversee the delivery of the £8m consequential funding to support looked after children and care leavers and a three year change programme (2017-2020) to realise the vision and objectives.

A MAG Operations Group has also been established, jointly chaired by Phil Evans and a senior Welsh Government official from the Social Services and Integration Directorate. The role of the Group is to provide operational oversight of the MAG work programme, including interfaces across work streams and the delivery of funding allocated to support work areas. Membership consists of the three work stream Chairs and Vice-Chairs, Social Care Wales, the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the All Wales Heads of Children's Services and members of the Improving Outcomes for Children team at Welsh Government.

## **Youth Work**

As you are aware, Youth Work sits in the portfolio of the Minister for Welsh Language and Lifelong Learning. The former Minister for Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language asked for a review of Extending Entitlement to be undertaken, with the expectation that this would highlight what works and what doesn't work, and to provide future direction for the sector in today's legislative, policy and financial landscape. This work, undertaken by Margaret Jervis, MBE DL, has now concluded, and was informed by discussions with a wide range of stakeholders, including young people. Margaret's draft recommendations are currently with the Minister for Welsh Language and Lifelong Learning, the final report will be submitted to her shortly, following which she will then set out how she intends to take them forward in partnership with the sector.

It would therefore not be appropriate for me to comment on specific details at this time. I am however, aware that both Margaret, and the Minister for Welsh Language and Lifelong Learning, have reflected on the Children, Young People and Education Committee's Inquiry into Youth Work, which included recommendations that touched on both accountability and ensuring sufficient levels of provision. I will write to the Committee to provide a further update, once the Minister for Welsh Language and Lifelong Learning has set out her preferred direction of travel.

I agree that it was hugely beneficial to hold the meeting in a venue which supports young people to achieve their goals. I would also like to acknowledge the success of the Cwmbran Centre for Young People for being the first youth work organisation to achieve the Gold Level - Quality Mark for Youth Work in Wales.

## Work Experience

We recognise that effective employer engagement with schools can help young people plan their career journey, relate their classroom experience to their future career options and ideas, and help them make successful transitions into further education, training and employment. With that in mind, the new curriculum being developed for Wales will be based around four purposes, one of which is to develop our young people as enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work.

Building on this, our recently published national strategy *Prosperity for All* states that we will ensure closer working between schools, colleges, universities and employers to raise ambition and better anticipate the skills needs over the coming years. To help deliver this aim we are pursuing a number of options, one of which is through Careers Wales.

Careers Wales currently facilitates links between schools and employers, and has been remitted to refresh its approach in this area. As part of this they are working to establish a new 'Education Business Exchange' which will support a national network of business education partnerships with an employer engagement database.

The Education Business Exchange will support schools in putting enriched learning experiences at the heart of the new curriculum and in developing new partnerships. It will also build a comprehensive 'data set' containing details of employers' willingness and ability to support the curriculum in activities such as:

- work experience with an employer;
- visits to industry which are curriculum focused;
- master classes with employers;
- work shadowing; and
- employer mentoring.

In addition, the Cabinet Secretary for Education has recently approved additional funding of £400,000 to Careers Wales to strengthen its work in supporting stronger partnerships between schools and business. The additional funding will be used to pump prime the roll out of the Education Business Exchange in more schools; and for Careers Wales to review best practice in establishing partnerships between schools and business. This will include a sample survey of schools and local authorities on approaches and policies to school-employer engagement and work experience. We are expecting to receive recommendations in the summer term.

Yours sincerely



**CARWYN JONES**

# Written Statement - Marking the first anniversary of the publication of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child's Concluding Observation report

12 July 2017

## **Carl Sargeant, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children**

A year ago today, the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child published its 2016 report on the United Kingdom's progress in implementing children's rights since it last reported in 2008.

The report was informed by evidence from all parts of the UK. At the time, the Committee took note of Wales' progress in relation to children's rights, for example, our Together for Children and Young People programme to support improved mental health for children and young people, and efforts on coordinating a better response to child sexual exploitation. The Committee also praised how the right to play is promoted in Wales.

Our work on children's rights continues.

The Welsh Government is committed to putting the rights of children at the centre of our policy making here in Wales. The UN Committee's recommendations and concluding observations have given us another opportunity to review our work on



children's rights and consider how we can continue to improve.

The Committee's recommendations cover a number of areas, including general principles such as respect for the views of the child; violence against children; family environment and alternative care; disability, basic health and welfare; and education, leisure and cultural activities.

Some of the recommendations sit in non-devolved areas, and of course we will work with and seek to influence the UK Government as it considers those.

In Wales momentum is building in a number of the areas where we have the powers to make a difference. I have highlighted below some of the key areas where progress has been, or is being made.

Both the Welsh Government and the Assembly Commission are taking forward the objective of showing respect for the views of the child, through providing greater opportunities to participate in decisions which affect them.

Following a unanimous vote of support from Assembly Members on 19 October 2016, the Llywydd announced her intention to establish a Welsh Youth Parliament.

Since then the Assembly Commission has worked with a Youth Parliament Steering Group to develop and consult on a proposal for a Youth Parliament. We await the outcome of that consultation.

This will complement the work of Young Wales which engages with children and young people through youth groups, forums and councils, and through social media, enabling them to tell Welsh Government their views on issues of their own choice. Welsh Government will also consult young people on the issues around Brexit.

Giving 16 and 17 year olds the vote is a key issue for young people who want to have a say in what happens in local area and their nation. The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government intends to consult shortly on proposals to lower the voting age to 16 for local elections. The Presiding Officer has established an expert panel to examine the voting age in relation to Assembly elections, following provisions in the Wales Act 2017 which, on commencement, will pass responsibility for the franchise of Welsh elections to the Assembly. It is my hope that we will see 16 and 17 year olds participating fully in the democratic process within the next few years.

We all agree that violence, abuse and neglect should not feature in any child's life.

That is why Welsh Government remains fully committed to introducing legislation to remove the defence of reasonable punishment. Our "Parenting – Give It Time" campaign promotes positive parenting behaviours, providing advice, guidance and signposting to support. Our early intervention programmes continue to work proactively with children and families to highlight and tackle issues, such as potential neglect, before they become a problem.

In relation to basic health and welfare, the Welsh Government recognises the importance of promoting emotional, mental and physical well-being for our children and young people.

That is why we are working across government to co-ordinate policies and programmes which can have a positive impact on children and young people's well-being, particularly across the Health, Wellbeing and Sport, Education, and Children and Communities portfolios. For example, the Healthy Child Wales Programme (HCWP) launched last October, is a service-led universal health programme for all families with 0-7 year old children. It includes a consistent range of evidence based preventative and early intervention measures, and advice and guidance to support parenting and healthy lifestyle choices.

In Flying Start areas, we have aligned the health elements of the programme with the HCWP so there is consistency in the timing of health visitor contacts. We are also learning from the Flying Start approach, where professionals are often co-located and work closely together to deliver holistic support services and interventions for local families.

Wales led research is providing a focus on the potential impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), and I am considering how we can best help to reduce the incidence of adverse experiences for children, and help children to build resilience.

As part of this focus, the Cabinet Secretary for Education, the Minister for Social Services and Public Health, and I are supporting the work of the ACE Support Hub to enable professionals and organisations, across sectors as diverse as education and housing and the police to become ACE informed. I have recently announced the five Children First pioneer areas. Reducing the impact of ACEs will form part of their approach, working with and listening to children and young people in an area, to make a positive difference to their life courses.

In relation to mental health, the Cabinet Secretaries for Health, Well-being and Sport and for Education are working together so that good mental health support can be provided to children and young people in schools. The aim is to help and support teachers in responding to children and young people who are experiencing difficulties such as anxiety, low mood, and compulsive, self-harm or conduct disorders and to build relationships which extend from the classroom to specialist mental health services.

Together 4 Children and Young People, alongside its work to improve access to clinical service when required, is mapping and evaluating programmes for prevention and early intervention through its Early Intervention and Enhanced Support to Vulnerable Groups work stream. This includes the role of Local Primary Mental Health Support Services to ensure that children and young people in need of targeted support receive this in a co-ordinated fashion.

We are also investing in quality childcare, both to support families with employment choices, and to ensure children receive the care and help they need to develop the skills needed in later life.

A key commitment for this government term is the delivery of our childcare offer, which will provide 30 hours of government-funded childcare and early education to the working parents of three and four year olds for 48 weeks of the year. Bringing together early education and childcare, we are supporting children with the transition to full time school whilst simultaneously enabling parents to access employment and improve families' prospects.

The Welsh Government will continue to take every opportunity to reinforce and strengthen our commitment to ensuring children and young people are able to live their lives in a way that allows them to flourish in a safe and nurturing environment. This will inevitably include all parts of government working closely together and with partners outside government, and I look forward to us making further progress in the coming years.

The UN Committee's report is available on the Welsh Government's website, a link is provided below. I ask everyone, especially those with an interest in children, young people and their families to take some time to consider the recommendations made

and the ways in which every one of us can help make these rights part of the fabric of our society.

# **Datganiad Ysgrifenedig - Nodi blwyddyn ers cyhoeddi Adroddiad Arsylwi Terfynol Pwyllgor y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau'r Plentyn**

12 Gorffennaf 2017

## **Carl Sargeant, Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gymunedau a Phlant**

Flwyddyn yn ôl i heddiw, cyhoeddodd Pwyllgor y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau'r Plentyn ei adroddiad 2016 ar gynnydd y Deyrnas Unedig o ran gweithredu ar hawliau plant ers yr adroddiad diwethaf yn 2008.

Mae'r adroddiad yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth o bob rhan o'r Deyrnas Unedig. Bryd hynny, nododd y Pwyllgor gynnydd Cymru mewn perthynas â hawliau plant. Er enghraifft, nodwyd ein rhaglen Law yn Llaw at Blant a Phobl Ifanc, sydd â'r nod o gefnogi'r gwaith o wella iechyd meddwl plant a phobl ifanc. Nodwyd hefyd ymdrechion i gydlynu gwell ymateb i achosion o gam-fanteisio'n rhywiol ar blant. Yn ogystal, canmolodd y Pwyllgor ymdrechion Cymru i hyrwyddo'r hawl i chwarae.

Wrth gwrs, mae ein gwaith mewn perthynas â hawliau plant yn parhau.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ymrwymo i roi hawliau plant wrth galon ein gwaith llunio polisiau yma yng Nghymru. Mae argymhellion Pwyllgor y Cenhedloedd Unedig a'i sylwadau terfynol wedi rhoi cyfle arall inni adolygu ein gwaith ar hawliau plant ac ystyried sut gallwn barhau i wella.

Mae argymhellion y pwyllgor yn cyffwrdd â nifer o feysydd, gan gynnwys egwyddorion cyffredinol megis parchu barn plant; trais yn erbyn plant; amgylchedd

teuluol a gofal amgen; anabled; iechyd a lles sylfaenol; ac addysg, hamdden a gweithgareddau diwylliannol.

Mae rhai o'r argymhellion yn ymwneud â meysydd nad ydynt wedi'u datganoli ac fe weithiwn, wrth gwrs, gyda Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig a cheisio dylanwadu arni wrth iddi ystyried y materion hynny.

Yng Nghymru, mae momentwm yn datblygu mewn sawl maes lle mae gennym y grymoedd i wneud gwahaniaeth. Isod, rwyf wedi pwysleisio rhai o'r meysydd allweddol lle mae cynnydd wedi cael ei wneud neu wrthi'n cael ei wneud.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru a Chomisiwn y Cynulliad yn bwrw ymlaen â'u hymdrechion mewn perthynas â'r amcan o barchu barn plant, a hynny drwy roi mwy o gyfleoedd i blant gyfrannu at y penderfyniadau sy'n effeithio arnynt.

Yn dilyn pleidlais unfrydol gan Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 19 Hydref 2016, cyhoeddodd y Llywydd ei bwriad i sefydlu Senedd ieuencid. Ers hynny, mae Comisiwn y Cynulliad wedi gweithio gyda Grŵp Llywio'r Senedd leuencid i ddatblygu ac ymgynghori ar y cynnig i sefydlu Senedd leuencid. Rydym yn aros i'r ymgynghoriad hwnnw ddod i ben ac i'w ganlyniadau gael eu cyflwyno.

Bydd hyn yn ategu gwaith Cymru Ifanc sy'n ymgysylltu ac yn ymwneud â phlant a phobl ifanc drwy grwpiau, fforymau a chynghorau ieuencid, a thrwy'r cyfryngau cymdeithasol, gan roi cyfle iddynt ddweud eu dweud wrth Lywodraeth Cymru am y materion sydd o bwys iddyn nhw. Bydd Llywodraeth Cymru hefyd yn ymgysylltu ac yn ymgynghori â phobl ifanc ar faterion mewn perthynas â Brexit.

Mae rhoi'r bleidlais i bobl ifanc 16 ac 17 oed yn fater o bwys i bobl ifanc sydd am gael llais a dylanwadu ar yr hyn sy'n digwydd yn eu hardal a'u gwlad. Mae Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid a Llywodraeth Leol yn bwriadu ymgynghori'n fuan ar gynigion i newid yr oedran pleidleisio i 16 ar gyfer etholiadau lleol. Mae'r Llywydd wedi sefydlu panel o arbenigwyr i ystyried yr oedran pleidleisio mewn etholiadau i'r Cynulliad. Mae hyn yn dod yn sgil darpariaethau yn Neddf Cymru 2017 a fydd, ar eu cychwyn, yn rhoi cyfrifoldeb am etholfraint etholiadau Cymru i'r Cynulliad. Rwy'n gobeithio y gwelwn bobl ifanc 16 ac 17 oed yn cymryd rhan lawn yn y broses ddemocrataidd yn y blynyddoedd nesaf.

Rydym oll yn gytûn na ddylai trais, cam-drin nac esgeulustod fod yn rhan o fywyd unrhyw blentyn. Dyna pam mae Llywodraeth Cymru'n parhau i fod yn hollol ymrwymedig i gyflwyno deddfwriaeth i ddiddymu'r amddiffyniad cosb resymol. Mae ein hymgyrch "Rhianta – Rhowch Amser Iddo" yn hyrwyddo technegau rhianta da,

gan roi cyngor a chanllawiau, a chan gyfeirio at gymorth. Mae ein rhaglenni ymyrryd yn gynnar yn parhau i ymgysylltu'n rhagweithiol â phlant a theuluoedd i bwysleisio a thaclo materion, megis esgeuluso plant, a hynny cyn iddynt droi'n broblem, gobeithio.

O ran iechyd a lles sylfaenol, mae Llywodraeth Cymru'n cydnabod pwysigrwydd hyrwyddo lles emosiynol, meddyliol a chorfforol ar gyfer ein plant a'n pobl ifanc.

Dyna pam rydym yn gweithio, a hynny ar draws y llywodraeth, i gydlynu polisïau a rhaglenni a all gael effaith gadarnhaol ar les plant a phobl ifanc. Mae hyn, wrth gwrs, o bwys mawr i'r portffolio Iechyd, Lles a Chwaraeon a'r portffolio Plant a Chymunedau. Er enghraifft, mae'r rhaglen Plant Iach Cymru, a lansiwyd mis Hydref diwethaf, yn rhaglen iechyd gyffredinol ar gyfer teuluoedd sydd â phlant 0-7 oed. Mae'n cynnwys ystod o ymyriadau cynnar, oll wedi'u seilio ar dystiolaeth, a chyngor a chanllawiau i gynorthwyo gyda rhianta a gwneud dewisiadau byw'n iach.

Mewn ardaloedd Dechrau'n Deg, rydym wedi alinio elfennau iechyd y rhaglen gyda rhaglen Plant Iach Cymru er mwyn sicrhau cysondeb o ran amseru ymweliadau iechyd. Rydym hefyd yn dysgu o'r ymagwedd Dechrau'n Deg; hynny yw, bod gweithwyr proffesiynol yn cael eu lleoli gyda'i gilydd ac yn cydweithio'n agos i ddarparu gwasanaethau cymorth ac ymyriadau holistaidd i deuluoedd lleol.

Mae gwaith a arweinir gan Gymru yn ymchwilio i effeithiau posibl profiadau niweidiol yn ystod plentyndod, ac rwyf i'n ystyried sut orau i leihau'r achosion o brofiadau niweidiol yn ystod plentyndod, a helpu plant i fod yn gydnerth a gwydn. Fel rhan o hyn, mae Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg, y Gweinidog Iechyd y Cyhoedd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a minnau'n cefnogi gwaith y Ganolfan Gymorth Profiadau Niweidiol yn ystod Plentyndod i alluogi pobl broffesiynol a sefydliadau, ar draws sectorau mor amrywiol ag addysg, tai a'r heddlu i ddysgu mwy am brofiadau niweidiol yn ystod plentyndod, a'u heffeithiau. Yn ddiweddar, cyhoeddais bum ardal arloesi Rhoi Plant yn Gyntaf. Bydd lleihau effeithiau profiadau niweidiol yn ystod plentyndod yn rhan o'u gwaith; byddant yn gweithio gyda phlant a phobl ifanc yn lleol, ac yn gwrandao arnynt, er mwyn ceisio gwneud gwahaniaeth cadarnhaol i gwrs eu bywydau.

O ran iechyd meddwl, mae Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd, Lles a Chwaraeon ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd i sicrhau y gall cymorth iechyd meddwl o safon cael ei ddarparu i blant a phobl ifanc yn yr ysgol. Y nod yw helpu a chefnogi athrawon i ymateb i blant a phobl ifanc sy'n cael anawsterau megis pryder, iselder, hunan-niweidio, neu anhwylderau cymhellol neu

ymddygiadol, a datblygu cysylltiadau defnyddiol sy'n ymestyn o'r ystafell ddosbarth i wasanaethau iechyd meddwl arbenigol.

Mae Law yn Llaw at Blant a Phobl Ifanc, ochr yn ochr â'i waith i wella mynediad at wasanaeth clinigol pan fo'i angen, yn mapio a gwerthuso rhaglenni atal ac ymyrryd yn gynnar drwy ei ffrwd gwaith Ymyriadau Cynnar a Gwell Cymorth i Grwpiau sy'n Agored i Niwed. Mae hyn yn cynnwys Gwasanaethau Cymorth Iechyd Meddwl Sylfaenol Lleol, sy'n gwneud gwaith i sicrhau bod plant a phobl ifanc sydd angen cymorth penodol yn ei gael mewn ffordd gydlynol.

Rydym hefyd yn buddsoddi mewn gofal plant o safon, er mwyn cefnogi teuluoedd â'u dewisiadau, a sicrhau bod plant yn derbyn gofal a chymorth er mwyn iddynt allu datblygu'r sgiliau sydd eu hangen arnynt i lwyddo mewn bywyd.

Mae cyflawni ein cynnig gofal plant yn un o brif ymrwymadau'r llywodraeth ar gyfer y tymor hwn: 30 awr o ofal plant ac addysg gynnar wedi'i ariannu gan y llywodraeth i rieni sy'n gweithio ac sydd â phlant tair a phedair blwydd oed, a hynny am 48 wythnos y flwyddyn. Gan ddod ag addysg gynnar a gofal plant at ei gilydd, rydym yn cefnogi plant i bontio i addysg llawn amser ac, ar yr un pryd, yn galluogi rhieni i gael mynediad at gyflogaeth gan wella rhagolygon teuluoedd.

Bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn parhau i fanteisio ar bob cyfle i gryfhau ac ategu ein hymrwymiad i sicrhau bod plant a phobl ifanc yn gallu byw eu bywydau mewn ffordd sy'n eu caniatáu i ffynnu a llwyddo, a hynny mewn amgylchedd diogel sy'n helpu i'w meithrin. Bydd hyn yn golygu y bydd angen i bob rhan o lywodraeth weithio gyda'i gilydd a chyda phartneriaid y tu allan i lywodraeth, ac rwyf innau'n edrych ymlaen at ein gweld yn gwneud cynnydd pellach yn y blynyddoedd i ddod.

Mae adroddiad Pwyllgor y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar gael ar wefan Llywodraeth Cymru, wele ddolen isod. Gofynnaf i bawb, yn enwedig pobl sydd â diddordeb ym maes plant, pobl ifanc a'u teuluoedd, i ystyried yr argymhellion a wnaed a sut gallwn ni i gyd helpu i sicrhau bod hawliau plant yn greiddiol i'n cymdeithas.