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Agenda - Children, Young People and Education **Committee**

For further information contact: Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 1 – Senedd **Llinos Madeley**

Meeting date: 14 March 2019 **Committee Clerk**

0300 200 6565 Meeting time: 09.15

SeneddCYPE@assembly.wales

Private Pre-meeting

(09.15 - 09.30)

Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of 1 interest

(09.30)

2 Scrutiny of the Healthy Weight: Healthy Wales Draft Strategy evidence session

(09.30 - 10.30)

Dr Frank Atherton, Chief Medical Officer for Wales Nathan Cook, Head of Healthy and Active - Welsh Government

- 3 Papers to note
- 3.1 Letter from the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSCC) -**CAMHS: Inpatient Provision**

(Pages 1 – 4)

Attached Documents:

CYPE(5)-09-19 - Paper to note 1



3.2 Letter from the Minister for Health and Social Services – CAMHS: Inpatient Provision

(Pages 5 - 8)

Attached Documents:

CYPE(5)-09-19 - Paper to note 2

3.3 Letter from the Children Commissioner for Wales – Tier 4 CAMHS inpatient services in Wales

(Pages 9 - 11)

Attached Documents:

CYPE(5)-09-19 - Paper to note 3

3.4 Letter from Qualifications Wales to the Minister for Education – Qualifications for the new curriculum

(Pages 12 – 17)

Attached Documents:

CYPE(5)-09-19 - Paper to note 4

3.5 Letter from the Chair to the Minister for Education – Developing the new Curriculum for Wales

(Pages 18 - 19)

Attached Documents:

CYPE(5)-09-19 - Paper to note 5

3.6 Letter from the Chair to the Minister for Education – Draft Additional Learning Needs Code

(Pages 20 - 22)

Attached Documents:

CYPE(5)-09-19 - Paper to note 6

3.7 Letter from the Chair to the Minister for Education – Degrees of Separation? Welsh Government Response to the Committee Report

(Pages 23 - 27)

Attached Documents:

CYPE(5)-09-19 - Paper to note 7

3.8 Letter from the Equality and Human Rights Commission – Cumulative Impact Assessment briefing for Committees

(Pages 28 - 29)

Attached Documents:

CYPE(5)-09-19 - Paper to note 8

3.9 Letter from the Chair of Petitions Committee – Petition P-05-857 Create a national task force for children's mental health

(Pages 30 - 31)

Attached Documents:

CYPE(5)-09-19 - Paper to note 9

3.10 Letter to Secretary of State for Exiting the EU from the Children's

Commissioners for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland – Brexit

and the implications for children

(Pages 32 – 34)

Attached Documents:

CYPE(5)-09-19 - Paper to note 10

4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for the remainder of the meeting (10.30)

Break

(10.30 - 10.45)

5 Scrutiny of the Healthy Weight: Healthy Wales draft strategy – consideration of the evidence

(10.45 - 11.00)

6	The status of the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification –
	consideration of the draft report

(11.00 – 11.45) (Pages 35 – 91)

Attached Documents:

Draft Report

7 Draft Additional Learning Needs Code – consideration of the consultation response

(11.45 - 12.30)

8 Welsh Government Draft Budget 2019 – 20: Impact assessments accompanying draft budgets – consideration of the draft report

(12.30 – 12.55) (Pages 92 – 115)

Attached Documents:

Draft Report

9 Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales)
Bill timetable

(12.55 - 13.00)

(Pages 116 - 119)

Attached Documents:

Private Paper

Agenda Item 3.1



Your ref/eich cyf: Our ref/ein cyf:SL/CS/LJ Date/dyddiad: 18 February 2019

Tel/ffôn: 01443 443443 ext 78131

Fax/ffacs: 029 2080 7854

Email/ebost: sian.lewis100@wales.nhs.uk

Lynne Neagle AM Chair of Children, Young People and Education Committee National Assembly for Wales

Dear Lynne,

Re: Child and Adolescent Mental Health: in-patient provision

Thank you for your letter of the 24th of January sent on behalf of the Children, Young People and Education Committee. You asked for further information on a number of areas and I have responded to each of these questions in turn:

• Please could you confirm the current options available for patients living in Wales who require in-patient CAMHS care.

The current arrangements are that there are NHS inpatient beds available in both north and south Wales. These are provided by the North Wales Adolescent Services (NWAS), Abergele and Ty Llidiard, Bridgend respectively.

If a patient has very specialised needs such as leaning or physical disability or they require secure accommodation they are placed outside Wales through the Welsh CAHMS Framework which selects providers according to quality, cost and location. The framework is also used to identify beds if there is no capacity amongst Welsh NHS providers.

In the event that no beds are available on the Framework placements can be made with other providers of Tier 4 beds (subject to the required regulator registration). If no beds are available for CAMHS services within the UK, alternative inpatient provision within health boards, for example, adult mental health or general paediatric beds are used, however CAHMS input is still always provided as required by the Care and Treatment Plan.

 Please could you outline the impact on current practice of the restrictions applied to in-patient mental health care settings in Wales (for example: are children and young people now being admitted to adult wards where hospitalisation is unavoidable and/or for longer

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Managing Director of Specialised and Tertiary Services Commissioning/Rheolwr Gyfarwyddwr Comisiynu Gwasanaethau Arbenigol a Thrydyddol: Dr Sian Lewis Pack Page 1

whilst placements are being commissioned from England or elsewhere? Are there sufficient designated wards available? Are Health Boards instead utilising their home treatment team)

WHSSC currently commissions 12 beds from NWAS however the service has been operating at a reduced capacity of 10 beds over an extended period of time. This is due to significant workforce challenges and the increasingly complex needs of patients. WHSSC are working closely with NWAS through their quality escalation process to return to the 12 bed commissioned capacity. The timing will be determined by clinical risk assessments.

The Ty Llidiard service is operating at commissioned capacity however since March 2018 there has been a tightening of the admission criteria in response to a risk assessment of the physical environment. The service will continue to operate the admission criteria within the current policy until the remedial works to the building have been completed.

The above change has led to a small number of patients (6) being placed out of area who previously would have been able to access NHS services in Wales. The detail is included in the table below.

WHSSC does not have access to information on how and where patients are looked after prior to Tier 4 referral. We therefore cannot comment on the admission to age appropriate beds on adult wards or the use of home treatment teams. The monitoring of use of designated wards/age appropriate beds is carried out by Welsh Government and they should be able to provide information regarding the level of use.

As described above when no general CAHMS beds are available in NHS Wales' providers Framework placements are sought as a matter of urgency.

• Please describe the arrangements you have in place for monitoring and reviewing arrangements where you commission in-patient CAMHS care. Please provide information in relation to services commissioned in both Wales and England (and beyond, if relevant).

Welsh NHS providers: WHSSC receive regular monthly monitoring returns from the 2 Welsh NHS units identifying bed usage including the number of patient admissions, discharges and the numbers of patients on home leave. WHSSC also have contract & performance meetings with the health boards and the 2 units are considered within those wider meetings.

Currently issues concerning quality are reported through standard health boards systems such as Datix monitoring and HIW inspections. These are followed up by WHSSC quality team and reported through the WHSSC Quality & Patient Safety Committee as appropriate. Recently, however, WHSSC has agreed an SLA for routine annual monitoring of NHS Wales providers by the Quality Assurance & Improvement Service (QAIS) which manages the Framework. This now ensures consistency between the required quality standards of NHS Wales

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and Framework providers. In addition both units are currently being managed through the WHSSC quality escalation process and therefore subject to regular quality visits.

Framework Providers: The Framework providers are monitored through QAIS who undertake site audits and monitor performance via a national Commissioning Care Assurance Performance System (CCAPS) database. All patients requiring Tier 4 inpatient CAMHS beds, irrespective of whether they are looked after by a Welsh NHS provider or by a Framework provider are subject to part 2 of Mental Health Measure and will have a health board/local authority care co-ordinator who is responsible for agreeing and reviewing individual care & treatment plans.

• Please provide information about the numbers of in-patient CAMHS places you have commissioned in Wales and outside, per month, for the last 12 months (up to an including January 2019).

The number of placements in inpatient CAMHS beds excluding the 2 NHS units during the last 12 months is 28 with 3 of these placements in being in private providers in Wales.

Month (Year)	Total No of CAMHS patients	No of MS Forensic placements	No of LS/PICU placements	Number of generic CAMHS placements
Feb '18	1		1	
Mar ` 18	3		3	
Apr '18	0			
May '18	2	1	1	
Jun '18	0			
Jul '18	4	2	1	1
Aug '18	3		2	1
Sept '18	1			1
Oct '18	5		3	2
Nov '18	4		1	3
Dec '18	3	1		2
Jan '19	2		2	
Total	28	4	14	10

Note:

Of the 10 generic out of areas placements only 6 were due to capacity constraints and 4 were related to specific patient need.

Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee

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There are currently 11 Welsh CAMHS patients placed outside of Wales. Of these patients 2 are in Forensic Medium Secure units, 6 are in Low Secure units and only 3 are in general CAMHS beds.

I hope this information is helpful to the committee. Please let us know if additional information or clarification is required.

Yours sincerely

Dr Sian Lewis

Managing Director

Meller

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CYPE(5)-09-19 - Paper to note 2

Agenda Item 3.2

Vaughan Gething AC/AM Y Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Minister for Health and Social Services

Ein cyf/Our ref MA-P-VG-0657-19

Lynne Neagle AM Chair Children, Young People and Education Committee National Assembly for Wales Cardiff Bay CF99 1NA Llywodraeth Cymru

Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

25 February 2019

Dear Lynne,

Thank you for your letter of 24 January in which you outlined concerns regarding Child and Adolescent Mental Health inpatient provision.

As you are aware, hospitalisation is increasingly seen as a last resort and with the establishment of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Community Crisis Intervention Teams in 2015, many more young people now receive their care within the local community close to family and friends without the need for hospitalisation. However, there will always be a need for some young people, with very high needs, to be sent out of area for treatment.

You specifically asked me to outline my understanding in relation to questions included in your letter to the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC) on 24 January.

Current options for inpatient CAMHS care

I understand WHSSC has provided you with a detailed outline of the current options available for patients living in Wales who require inpatient CAMHS care.

Impact of current practice of the restrictions applied to inpatient mental health care settings

The Royal College of Psychiatrists¹ has proposed a proxy measure of appropriate bed numbers as between two and four beds per 100,000 population. We are currently operating above this level.

We have robust arrangements in place to ensure the quality and safety of specialist mental inpatient settings and to manage the need for services when restrictions are in place in a

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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.

¹ Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Tier 4 Report, NHS England, 2014: https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/camhs-tier-4-rep.pdf citing evidence from the Care Services Improvement Partnership 2007 and Cotgrove et al, Royal College of Psychiatrists, 2004.

particular unit whilst any necessary improvement work is undertaken. This includes making placements via the national framework contract to place individuals in suitable independent facilities. WHSSC monitors expected need on an annual basis in order to plan against current capacity and to minimise the need for out of area placements.

Within this question, you referenced children and young people being admitted to adult wards whilst placements are being commissioned.

The Welsh Government is clear that children admitted to hospital should be accommodated in the most suitable environment and that this must take account of their age and developmental needs and their right, where they are competent, to exercise choice as to where they receive treatment.

Health Boards are required to comply with their legal duties regarding the appropriate placement of children in hospital. When circumstances require that an under 18 year old is placed on an adult ward, each Health Board area should have designated ward(s), or ward areas that appropriately meet the needs of children and young people. In accordance with its Serious Untoward Incident Process (as set out in the Putting Things Right guidance), the following must be reported to the Welsh Government:

- All admissions to adult mental health wards of children and young people age 16 and under;
- Admissions to adult wards of people aged 16 to 17 years of age <u>deemed</u> inappropriate to needs and patient choice.

Serious incident reports submitted to the Welsh Government indicate a significant reduction in the inappropriate admission of children and young people to adult wards over the last four years (table below). The data also indicates that there were only three occasions in the last four years where a child under the age of 16 was admitted to an adult ward.

All Wales – SUI for CYP admission to an adult ward	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
16 and 17 year olds	39	21	19	11
Under 16s	0	2 (aged 14)	0	1 (aged 15)
Total	39	23	19	12

I also expect Health Boards to record and review the numbers of all admissions of under 18s to adult mental health wards.

One of the pathways that a child or young person can be admitted to hospital is following a mental health assessment when police have used their powers under s.136 of the Mental Health Act 1983 to take a person to a place of safety for that purpose. The law changed in December 2017 to say that a police station can never be used as a place of safety for anyone under the age of 18.

However, in Wales, this policy intention was realised much sooner and no child or young person has been taken to a police station as a place of safety since 2015 This means that Pack Page 6

in addition to a reduction in the number of inappropriate admissions to adult wards, where any of those admissions were following an assessment under s.136, we have required the assurance that the assessment of that child or young person's mental health was undertaken in a health-based place of safety rather than police custody.

I should also point out there are various teams across Health Boards supporting children and young people in the community who, without the support of Community Crisis teams or Home Treatment teams or similar, may have been admitted to an inpatient CAMHS unit. The Welsh Government do not collect the information nationally regarding Health Boards utilisation of such teams specifically as an alternative to hospital admission. The decision to provide home or community-based treatment can include any wishes or preferences expressed by a young person or their families which can also impact on whether an inpatient bed is used. Due to this, it is difficult to disaggregate the relationship between home treatment decisions and bed availability. However, the principle of home treatment is that it is a viable alternative treatment option, should a child or young person need inpatient care and treatment then securing the appropriate inpatient facility must be the priority. The number of out of area placements of young people requiring inpatient treatment is continually monitored and is showing a reduction on previous years, for example, averaging 14 placements from November 2016 to October 2017, and averaging 10 placements from February 2018 to October 2019.

The monitoring of the number of placements in inpatient CAMHS within the NHS units and the Welsh CAMHS patients placed in non-NHS facilities within Wales or outside of Wales does ensure any significant fluctuations or pressures in the system would be appropriately escalated.

Monitoring and reviewing arrangements for commissioned inpatient CAMHS care

Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW) is responsible for regulating independent healthcare services in Wales. WHSSC is responsible for the commissioning and quality management of specialised and highly specialised services on behalf of health boards in Wales, this includes Tier 4 CAMHS services. NHS Wales Quality Assurance Improvement Team (QAIT) is responsible for managing the framework contract under which Welsh patients are placed in private mental health facilities. However, there are escalation processes in place within each of these organisations to notify Welsh Government of services which are a cause of significant concern.

In addition to these routine arrangements, the National Collaborative Commissioning Unit, will be commissioned under an Service Level Agreement with WHSSC to undertake reviews of inpatient units during 2019/20.

Numbers of in patient CAMHS places commissioned from February 2018 to January 2019

I understand this information has already been provided to you by WHSSC.

Regis inpatient facility at Ebbw Vale

Currently, Regis Healthcare is a Service of Concern under HIW's enforcement processes and remains under the highest level of scrutiny from HIW. This follows concerns identified during a number of inspections, which resulted in HIW issuing the service with a Notice of Proposal to cancel its registration. In response, Regis Healthcare has made written representations which detail the actions it is going to take to address HIW's concerns. HIW has recently provided assurance that following its further inspections in December and early February, sufficient progress is being made by Regis Healthcare on the implementation of the

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improvement plan. HIW has therefore made the decision to not progress to a Notice of Decision to cancel the registration of Regis Healthcare.

HIW continue to monitor the service very closely to ensure the required improvements are made and that the safety of patients currently placed at the unit is maintained.

NHS England has similar arrangements to those in Wales, organised on a regional basis. The decision to remove all Welsh patients from the Ebbw Vale site was taken by QAIT following its own monitoring visit. However, provided an independent healthcare service in Wales is registered with HIW, it is for commissioners elsewhere in the UK to decide whether or not patients should be placed in that setting and the circumstances under which that placement might end. I can confirm that HIW maintains contact with English commissioners, which are aware of the 'Service of Concern' status.

Safety concerns regarding 2 NHS inpatient Units

As stated above, there are robust arrangements in place to review, monitor and escalate quality and safety concerns in inpatient units. I am aware that Ty Lidiard continues to run with reduced admissions criteria and the North Wales Adolescents Service are being supported by WHSSC within its escalation framework.

Yours sincerely,

Vaughan Gething AC/AM

Y Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Minister for Health and Social Services

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Agenda Item 3.3

Comisiynydd Plant Cymru

Children's Commissioner for Wales

Lynne Neagle AM

Chair

Children, Young People and Education
Committee

National Assembly for

Wales

Dear Lynne,

Re: Tier 4 CAMHS in-patient services in Wales.

Following my letter of 18th January, I have now received a reply from Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW), which I attach for your information.

Via email only

I understand that more detail around the issues in CAMHS in-patient settings will be available in HIW's upcoming 'Youth Thematic Report', to be published at the end of March.

25 February 2019

I continue to have concerns over the provision of in-patient CAMHS services in Wales, and will be actively pursuing those concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Sally

Sally Holland

Comisiynydd Plant Cymru

De Whed

Children's Commissioner for Wales



Ty^ Ystumllwynarth/Oystermouth House Llys Siarter/Charter Court, Phoenix Way Abertawe/Swansea SA7 9FS 01792 765600 comisiynyddplant.cymru childrenscommissioner.wales

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Gwirio bod pobl yng Nghymru yn derbyn gofal da

Checking people in Wales are receiving good care

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Via Email: 20 February 2019

commissioner@childcomwales.org.uk

Ein cyf / Our ref 25465

Dear Sally

RE: CONCERNS IN RELATION TO TIER 4 CAMHS SERVICES IN WALES

Thank you for your letter dated 18 January identifying your concerns Regarding Tier 4 CAMHS patients in Wales. As you will be aware, Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW) carries out reviews/inspections of healthcare organisations or services in response to concerns arising from a particular incident or incidents, dependent upon the seriousness and/or frequency of occurrence. Information on how we inspect the NHS and Independent Healthcare services can be viewed in the link below.

http://hiw.org.uk/about/whatwedo/inspect/?lang=en

In relation to the three settings you have identified, I can confirm that we have undertaken recent inspections which can be found below.

Ty Llidiard

http://hiw.org.uk/find-service/service-index/tyllidiard?lang=en

Abergele

http://hiw.org.uk/find-service/service-index/abergelehospital1?lang=en

Regis

http://hiw.org.uk/find-service/service-index/regishealthcare89?lang=en

Our findings and recommendations relating to these services can be found in the reports, but in general, the themes to have emerged include issues regarding, maintenance of premises, individualised risk assessments, staff training, documentation within legal records

www.hiw.org.uk

such as detention papers, patient records including restraint risk management and implementation plans.

Recruitment of appropriately qualified, skilled and experienced staff and management have also been identified through our intelligence as areas of concern.

Significant concerns has been identified in relation to Regis Healthcare which have required HIW to undertake significant action, as you may have seen in the media. This is subject to ongoing proceedings and as such would be inappropriate to comment at present.

In relation to the provision of tier 4 CAMHS services in general, HIW's main purpose is to ensure that patients receive safe and effective care and treatment. We use appropriate regulations and standards to make judgements about the quality, safety and effectiveness of healthcare services. We provide independent assurance on the safety quality and availability of healthcare by effective regulation and reporting openly and clearly on inspections and investigations.

We encourage and support improvements in care through reporting and sharing good practice and areas where actions is require. Where we identify poor or weak practice we take action in order to ensure that patients are not put at undue risk.

Our recent inspections of CAMHS settings has certainly outlined some challenges that need to be overcome in order to ensure that the care being provided is safe, and of sufficient quality. We will continue to monitor services and take appropriate action where standards and regulations are not met.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Kate Chamberlain Chief Executive

Agential tem 3pd to note 4



Kirsty Williams AM
Minister for Education
By email - DSME@gov.wales

12 February 2019

Dear Minister

Qualifications for the new curriculum

As the independent qualifications regulator, our responsibility is to make sure that qualifications meet the needs of learners in Wales and command public confidence.

The new Curriculum for Wales provides us with the opportunity to consider the purpose, design and availability of qualifications. While it is for Welsh Government to define the national policy context in which the curriculum and qualifications are delivered, we expect work associated with the design and development of new qualifications to form a significant part of our work over the next few years.

At our meeting with you before Christmas we touched on our plans for considering the implications for qualifications. In this letter we give more detail about how we will approach this important work.

We have worked with your officials and others across the education system to support the development of the new curriculum since its inception. As the draft curriculum has taken shape, we have been considering how we can make sure that qualifications continue to meet the needs of 16-year-olds once the new curriculum is introduced. Meeting the aims of the National Mission will require new qualifications to be available for first teaching from September 2025. We will also need to consider

whether any existing qualifications should continue to be available alongside new ones.

Renewing 14 – 16 qualifications will allow us to develop content and assessment methods that are fit for the future and help students to fulfil the core purposes of the curriculum. Ensuring that qualifications are closely aligned to the new curriculum will be crucial to its success, otherwise there is a risk of undermining the aims of the wider education reforms.

We want students in Wales to have an appropriate and coherent choice of engaging and trusted qualifications, which schools can combine and deliver effectively in Welsh and English.

An essential feature of our approach will be to ensure that teachers, students, and the wider education sector play a central role in shaping future qualifications. Recognising the important role that qualifications play in supporting learners to progress to further education and employment, we will also seek input from employers, colleges and universities from Wales and beyond.

Before we can determine the design requirements for new qualifications, it's important to consider why they are needed and to agree the purposes that they need to fulfil. By engaging with others, we want to agree what the purposes of new qualifications should be and to develop key principles for determining the nature of the future qualifications offer, including the mix of qualifications and subjects that should be available to 16-year-olds in Wales.

To ensure a firm basis for engaging with stakeholders and developing proposals for future qualifications, we will need clarity on key aspects of education policy. Between now and the summer, we will continue to work closely with your officials to address the following key policy questions:

- whether schools will be expected to offer a minimum range of qualifications to students;
- whether students will be expected or entitled to take a qualification from each area of learning and experience;
- how qualifications will feature in the new accountability arrangements, at a national, regional, county and school level;
- in particular, whether and how qualifications will feature in any indicators of school performance measures.

As part of our work it will be necessary to consider the title given to new qualifications. Our view is that the GCSE title offers substantial flexibility and could accommodate a wide range of different qualification design features to support alignment with the new curriculum. There is a strong argument for retaining a brand that is well-known and trusted by the public, employers and education providers across the UK and internationally. We will, therefore, work on the basis that new qualifications will continue to use the GCSE brand, but remain open to considering alternatives.

We are already looking at how the design of the Welsh Baccalaureate could be improved, and we expect to see a redesigned Skills Challenge Certificate being available to support the new curriculum, alongside any other new qualifications.

As this new curriculum is intended for 3 to 16-year-olds, we are not expecting it to have a direct impact on AS and A levels. As we progress with the work, however, we will identify and consider any potential implications for post-16 qualifications.

Through our extensive research, engagement and consultation activity over the coming months, we aim to develop and test a set of proposed principles that will shape the future qualifications taken by 16-year-olds who have followed the new curriculum. We expect to be able to offer you detailed advice by the end of 2019, which should enable a clear policy position to be confirmed in early 2020. This will coincide with the finalisation of the new curriculum, give schools the necessary clarity to plan for introducing the new curriculum, and allow for detailed design work to begin on individual qualifications.

We know how important it is that new qualifications are available to schools in plenty of time for them to plan and prepare effectively, and to enable the timely development and delivery of professional learning for teachers and high-quality, bilingual teaching and learning resources. If we can agree a clear policy context and vision for future qualifications by early 2020, we are confident that new qualifications will be available to schools sufficiently early to support schools' needs.

We have already started to discuss early ideas with Welsh Government officials, pioneer schools, awarding bodies, assessment experts and Estyn. A number of research projects to gather teacher and student views on current qualifications are also underway. Between now and the summer we will expand and intensify our engagement with a growing range of stakeholders to help refine our thinking in preparation for a full public consultation in the autumn term.

The full programme of work to oversee the design, development, approval and introduction of new qualifications will require additional funding. We have already discussed with your officials the detailed funding implications for this work across the next five years.

We hope this letter helps to set out the collaborative approach we are taking to this important area of work. We look forward to working with your officials to develop a vision for qualifications in Wales that will support the aims and purposes of the new curriculum and prepare our young people for successful futures.

Yours sincerely

Ann Evans

Chair

Qualifications Wales

Ann Sugar

Philip Blaker

Bulu

Chief Executive Officer Qualifications Wales

CC

Steve Davies, Welsh Government Rebecca Olney, Welsh Government Kirsty Williams AC/AM Y Gweinidog Addysg Minister for Education



Qualifications Wales Q2 Building, Pencarn Lane, Imperial Park, Newport NP10 8AR

20 February 2019

Dear Ann and Philip,

Thank you for your letter of 12 February regarding qualifications for the new curriculum, building on our previous discussion.

We are at a positive stage in our reform, as you know, in April we will be further engaging with schools, practitioners and the public on the detail of the draft curriculum and so this is an appropriate stage to consider the implications for qualifications.

I am pleased that Qualifications Wales has been involved in developments from the early stages, including being part of each of the Pioneer Area of Learning and Experience and Assessment Working Groups.

As you point out, meeting the aims of Our National Mission will require new qualifications to be available for first teaching from September 2025. I know that you are committed to ensuring any new qualifications introduced will be made available simultaneously in Welsh and English; and that new qualifications will be approved at least 12 months before courses are to start to provide time for schools to plan and for bilingual teaching and learning resources to be developed to support them.

The Welsh Baccalaureate and Skills Challenge Certificate remain important. They give young people the opportunity to learn and develop a wide range of academic and personal skills and help prepare them for employment, further study and life. Your focus on how they can be further improved to support the new curriculum will help ensure our young people continue to benefit from these opportunities.

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

<u>Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru</u> Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay Caerdydd • Cardiff CF99 1NA

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 look forward to receiving your detailed advice and I have asked my officials to schedule key review meetings at the end of the summer and the end of the year when you have concluded your consultation activities. I would expect that you will engage with a wide range of stakeholders, going beyond the school sector to include (for example) public and private sector employers, colleges and universities. This provides a timely opportunity to both consider your advice to inform policy and also to review funding requirements for 2020-21 and beyond.

Yours sincerely

Kirsty Williams AC/AM

Y Gweinidog Addysg Minister for Education

CYPE(5)-09-19 - Paper to note 5 Agenda Item 3.5

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg

National Assembly for Wales Children, Young People and Education Committee

> Kirsty Williams AM Minister for Education Welsh Government

> > 22 February 2019

Dear Kirsty

Developing the new Curriculum for Wales

Thank you for your <u>letter</u> following the Committee's session on 10 January 2019 regarding the development of the new Curriculum for Wales.

As you will be aware, the Committee wrote to the WLGA and ADEW, seeking further comments from them on their jointly-submitted written evidence and your response to this in Committee on 10 January. Responses from the WLGA and ADEW were received on 31 January, both of which were shared with your office. In the Committee's meeting this week, Members considered the responses and earlier correspondence alongside further comments you made about the WLGA and ADEW's written evidence in Plenary on 29 January.

Both the WLGA and ADEW indicate in their responses that they are supportive of the direction of travel of curriculum reform and the vision set out in Professor Donaldson's report, *Successful Futures*. They also indicate they are committed to engaging with the Welsh Government as fully as possible on this key area. However, they maintain that their joint response to the Committee's call for evidence on progress in developing the new Curriculum for Wales was based on consultation with all 22 local authorities and reflected the views of Education Directors, which in turn reflected those of school leaders.

They also state that the written evidence they jointly submitted in advance of the 10 January scrutiny session (received in December 2018) was based on information available to them at that time. It remains unclear whether this refers to the versions of the draft Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLES) published in May 2018 or the later versions shared amongst those involved in curriculum design during the autumn.

0300 200 6565

Alongside the matters raised in this correspondence, there also appear to be considerable differences between the views of the WLGA and ADEW, regional consortia, and your own evidence, on progress in relation to curriculum reform, and the strengths and quality of what has been produced so far. The Committee recognises that it is not in a position to comment on the differing views without sight of the details of the plans currently being developed. Nevertheless, Members are keen to see all parties deliver on their respective commitments to improving communication channels. The Committee believes this is necessary to enable everyone within the sector to work towards a shared vision and understanding of curriculum reform, and to deliver that shared vision in genuine partnership.

In light of the information gathered in recent weeks, the Committee is concerned about the apparent disconnect between the Welsh Government and local government on this vital area of education reform. This is especially so given the key dates of April 2019 (publication of the draft curriculum) and January 2020 (publication of the final curriculum) that draw ever closer.

The Committee looks forward to continuing to work with you on this important agenda and scrutinising further the development of the new Curriculum for Wales. The Committee fully intends to monitor progress in curriculum reform closely, including the concerns we have highlighted in this letter, and looks forward to the results of your current consultation on the curriculum reform white paper.

Yours sincerely

Lynne Neagle AC / AM

Cadeirydd / Chair



Agenda Item 3.6 note 6

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg

National Assembly for Wales Children, Young People and Education Committee

> Kirsty Williams AM Minister for Education Welsh Government

> > 26 February 2019

Dear Kirsty

Draft Additional Learning Needs Code

As you are aware, the Children, Young People and Education Committee is currently considering the draft Additional Learning Needs Code (the Code), in accordance with its responsibilities as a statutory consultee under section 5 of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (the Act).

To help inform its consideration of the Code, the Committee has established a working group with key stakeholders, which met on 13 February. One area of concern that has been raised as part of its scrutiny has been in relation to Section 68 of the Act, and how this is interpreted within the Code. This was raised with officials in the ALN Transformation Team when they provided a technical brief to the Committee and the Committee has also received correspondence from SNAP Cymru regarding this matter (a copy of that letter is attached for your information).

The Committee is considering all the issues raised, and evidence provided, by the working group, and will respond to the consultation on the Code. However, before finalising our response, the Committee would be grateful if you could provide some further clarity on the specific issue raised in relation to Section 68 and 69 of the Act.

Points for Clarification

Section 68(1) & (2) of the Act require local authorities to make arrangements for the avoidance and resolution of disagreements between local authorities, governing bodies and proprietors of relevant institutions on the one hand; and children, their parents and



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young people on the other. Section 68(3) states this must include provision from persons who are independent of the parties. In relation to this, can you confirm:

- (a) how such arrangements would work. Is it anticipated that local authorities will deliver the avoidance and resolution services themselves?
- (b) how the Welsh Government interprets 'independent of the parties' as set out in section 68(3) of the Act. Paragraph 25.36 of the Code states that an independent person 'should have no previous involvement with the child, family or young person and should have no vested interest in the outcome'. However, the Committee is concerned that this does not provide sufficient clarity. In considering this, could you provide a response to the following questions:
 - If the family's disagreement is with the school, and there has been no local authority involvement, would someone within the local authority be considered independent? Whilst a local authority is not at that stage a party to any disagreement, there is potential for them to be a party in the future, for example if a parent asked for a reconsideration of the school governing body's decision.
 - If the case has been referred to the local authority, or the local authority is otherwise involved, is the local authority as a whole prevented from being able to act as an "independent person", or would they be able to satisfy the requirement for independence, by for example, using an officer or department within the authority unrelated to the case?

Section 69 of the Act requires local authorities to make arrangements for the provision of independent advocacy services to children and young people making or considering an appeal to the Tribunal or taking part in disagreement avoidance and resolution. The Code states that "current practice in Wales is to achieve independence by commissioning advocacy services from an external provider". In relation to this provision, can you confirm whether:

- (a) it would be possible for a local authority to provide independent advocacy services, and if so, in what circumstances?
- (b) if it is not possible for a local authority to provide independent advocacy services, but it is possible for them to meet the requirement for "independence" under disagreement avoidance and resolution arrangements (section 68), what the rationale is for this? Is 'independent' intended to be interpreted differently for each of the sections?



I would be very grateful for your urgent consideration of these matters, in order that the Committee can reflect on your response before it responds formally to the consultation on the Code.

Yours sincerely

Com Dance

Lynne Neagle AC / AM Cadeirydd / Chair



Agenda Item 3.7

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg

National Assembly for Wales

Children, Young People and Education Committee

Kirsty Williams AM Minister for Education Welsh Government

26 February 2019

Dear Kirsty

Degrees of Separation? Welsh Government Response to the Committee Report

Thank you for your response to the Committee's Degrees of Separation report on the impact of Brexit on HE and FE. As you may be aware, a debate has now been scheduled for Wednesday 20 March.

This is a fairly unique Committee report in that it is being considered against a backdrop that is constantly changing. Since the report was published in December 2018 the likelihood of a no-deal Brexit, and the consequent need for clear and proactive Welsh Government planning to mitigate the impact on staff and students has substantially increased.

One reason the Committee wished to bring forward a debate as late as possible, was to provide time to fully consider the Welsh Government response against this changing landscape. In light of this, and with time being of the essence, the Committee was concerned that your response was provided later than anticipated. While the Committee appreciates the reasons that may have contributed to this, the delay has provided us with less time to consider the response and to follow-up any areas of concern before the debate.

The Committee considered the response at its meeting on 21 February, and is concerned that in relation to a number of recommendations the response does not provide sufficient clarity, or fails at all to respond to the specific recommendations made. The Committee's concerns are set out in the attached Annex.



Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru Bae Caerdydd, Caerdydd, CF99 1NA SeneddPPIA@cynulliad.cymru www.cynulliad.cymru/SeneddPPIA 0300 200 6565 National Assembly for Wales Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, CF99 1NA SeneddCYPE@assembly.wales www.assembly.Ques SeneddCYPE 0300 200 6565 It would be extremely helpful, ahead of the scheduled debate, if the Welsh Government would address these concerns. We would be grateful for a response by 12 March, so that this can help inform the Committee's debate.

Yours sincerely

La Name

Lynne Neagle AC / AM Cadeirydd / Chair



Recommendation 1. The Welsh Government should proactively demand, via any future UK Immigration Bill, executive powers for Welsh Ministers that allow them to make spatially different immigration rules specifically for students and academic staff in Wales. Michelle Brown AM does not agree with this recommendation.

The Welsh Government makes it clear that it will engage with the UK Government's consultation on its future immigration white paper. Can the Welsh Government please clarify:

- exactly what it will ask of the UK Government in relation to staff and student immigration to meet the outcomes outlined in its response; and
- whether or not one of its demands from UK Government during the consultation will be for differential immigration rules for staff and students in Wales, as per the Committee's recommendation.

Recommendation 4. The Welsh Government must ensure that the Study in Wales website and marketing material, which is part of the Global Wales programme, is urgently updated and refreshed, not least to include information on the 2019/20 EU student funding guarantee.

The Committee welcomes the Welsh Government's acceptance of this recommendation. However, the Committee understands that the Study in Wales website is in the ownership of Universities Wales, which suggests that the Welsh Government would not have authority to undertake the actions it has set out in the response without working closely with Universities Wales. The Committee will be grateful for some clarification on this point.

Recommendation 6. The Welsh Government, as part of its response to this report, should provide information regarding the expected impact of the Global Wales II programme, including the expected student numbers and other quantifiable benefits.

The Committee was disappointed that the response did not include the detailed and quantitative information specifically set out in the recommendation particularly since the Welsh Government states it has accepted this recommendation. This information would allow the Committee to properly scrutinise a £3.5 million Welsh Government Brexit intervention. In line with the original recommendation, can Welsh Government please set out:

• the original business case or bid documentation for Global Wales II;



- any agreed final quantitative targets for scholarships / international mobilities and expected international student numbers;
- all of the programme deliverables where these are not included in the above;
 and
- details of any funding gateways / triggers for releasing further funding where these are not included in the above.

Recommendation 7. The Welsh Government must work with the higher and further education sectors to put in place and test funding arrangements that will guarantee no financial disruption or uncertainty for ERASMUS+ students, particularly those on modern language degrees, taking into account the conditions attached to the current Treasury guarantee. The Welsh Government must report back to this Committee when it has done so.

The Committee was disappointed that the Welsh Government's response offers no assurances to students expecting, or required to undertake an international mobility in 2019/20. The Committee's recommendation was intended to gain assurances on avoiding short-term disruption to students, not the longer term replacement of the programme which the Welsh Governments response focuses on.

Can the Welsh Government provide details on how it is planning to avoid short-term disruption to 2019/20 mobility students in the event of a no-deal (taking into account the conditions attached to HMTs guarantee) and if it has tested these arrangements.

Recommendation 8. The Welsh Government must commission a further research project, building on the recent work which informed the international mobility pilot, to develop a more detailed picture of the impact of international mobility on the outcomes of students from under-represented groups in Wales, and report back to the Committee within 6 months.

The Committee welcomes the positive steps the Welsh Government has already taken in relation to international mobility. However it is unclear from the response as to whether or not Welsh Government has agreed to undertake and publish the study. Can the Welsh Government:

- confirm that it will commission this study in-line with the recommendation;
 and
- that the study will specifically address under-represented groups in higher education.



Recommendation 11. The Welsh Government must commit to working jointly with the further education sector to jointly develop and publish a plan, funded by a EU Transition Fund bid and taking account of the differing regional needs, to identify and respond to any changing skills demands in those sectors most likely to experience Brexit related disruption.

The Committee welcomes the Welsh Government's acceptance of this recommendation, and welcomes the details set out regarding the work undertaken with / by the Regional Skills Partnerships. However, it does not appear from the response that a joint-plan of the nature the Committee recommends will be drafted. Can the Welsh Government:

- clarify if such a joint-plan is to be developed; and
- provide details of the projects mentioned in the response.

Recommendation 12. The Welsh Government must recognise the fundamental importance of research and innovation to the prosperity of Wales and recognise the danger inherent in falling behind England and Scotland in funding these activities in what is an extremely competitive setting. The Welsh Government must therefore begin to immediately fund the recommendations made by Professor Reid in his review.

The Committee is concerned that the Welsh Government only accepted this recommendation in part, and that it continues to not provide the necessary funding to implement all the recommendations made by Professor Graeme Reid.

The Committee notes that Professor Reid's recommendations were made in response to the potentially transformational opportunities offered by the increased UK Government investment in research and innovation, and by the likely loss of European funding which Welsh universities have been reliant upon. The Committee believes the recommendations offer a means of realising very significant opportunities for the whole of Wales post-Brexit.

The Committee understands that, in the short-term, HEFCW intends to work with Welsh Government to establish the different funds recommended by Professor Reid. Can the Welsh Government confirm what support it will provide to HEFCW to enable it to achieve this in the short-term.



Agenda Item 3.8



Lynne Neagle AM Chair of the Children, Young People and Education Committee National Assembly for Wales

21 February 2019

Dear Lynne

Cumulative Impact Assessment briefing for Committees

The Commission was pleased to provide evidence to the Joint meeting of the Finance, Children and Young People and Equality, Local Government and Communities Committees in November as part of the scrutiny of the Welsh Government's budget of 2018-19

Our evidence centred on the extent to which equality considerations had been built into the budget setting process and we provided advice on our recent work to develop a Cumulative Impact Assessment model of public spending decisions. The model enables Governments to analyse the cumulative impact of their spending decisions on certain groups with protected characteristics in order for them to take decisions to mitigate against unequal outcomes. We worked with Landman Economics on this work and since the evidence session we published our report - The cumulative impact on living standards of public spending changes, which includes evidence on the impact of Welsh Government's public spending decisions.

We were pleased to see the series of recommendations in the Finance Committee's including:

Bydd y Comisiwn yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg.

The Commission welcomes correspondence in Welsh or English.

Bloc 1, Cainc D, Adeiladau Llywodraeth, Heol Santes Agnes, Caerdydd, CF14 4YJ

Block 1, Spur D, Government Buildings, St Agnes Road, Cardiff, CF14 4YJ

Ffôn/Tel: 02920 447 710 | **E-bost/Email:** wales@equalityhumanrights.com Pack Page 28

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- the Welsh Government should consider the Cumulative Impact Assessment approach recommended by the Equality and Human Rights Commission and;
- that Welsh Government provide an update on the outcome of its review of the new Integrated Assessment approach.

We are keen to further support the Committees in taking forward these recommendations and advise on the scrutiny of future Welsh Government budgets. To this end we are continuing to work on a research project to analyse how effectively the current Welsh Government Integrated Impact Assessment model builds in equality considerations. We believe the outcome of this analysis will be useful for drive improvements on how the Welsh Government considers equality outcomes as part of its decision making on budgets and support scrutiny by the National Assembly.

We are pleased to offer a briefing session to you and your Committee Members and staff on the Cumulative Impact Assessment work and the review of the Integrated Impact Assessment. This would take place on or around 14 March.

If this is something that you would be interested please come back to me and my team will be happy to liaise with the Clerks teams to organise.

Yours sincerely

Ruth Coombs

Head of Wales

cc: Llyr Gruffydd AM, Chair of the Finance Committee
John Griffiths AM, Chair of Equality, Local Government and Communities
Committee

Bydd y Comisiwn yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg.

The Commission welcomes correspondence in Welsh or English.

Bloc 1, Cainc D, Adeiladau Llywodraeth, Heol Santes Agnes, Caerdydd, CF14 4YJ

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CYPE(5)-09-19 - Paper to note 9 Agenda Item 3.9

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

National Assembly for Wales

Petitions Committee

Lynne Neagle AM Chair, Children, Young People and Education Committee National Assembly for Wales Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1NA

21 February 2019

Dear Lynne

Petition P-05-857 Create a national task force for children's mental health

The Petitions Committee considered the above petition for the first time on 29 January.

At that meeting the Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to write to the Children, Young People and Education Committee to make you aware of the petition in the context of your ongoing work on this subject following the Mind over Matter report.

In light of its potential relevance to the national task force called for within the petition. Petitions Committee members also agreed to ask for any reflections that the CYPE Committee has in relation to the role and scope of the Joint Ministerial Task and Finish Group established by the Cabinet Secretary for Education and the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services.

You may wish to be aware that we also agreed to:

- write back to the Minister for Health and Social Services to provide the additional comments received from the petitioners and to ask for his response, in particular in relation to the observations and proposals made in relation to the role of the Ministerial Task and Finish Group; and
- request a briefing from the Research Service on the existing requirements in relation to mental health plans for children and their effectiveness.

Further information on the petition, including the full text and the correspondence received to date, is available on the website at: http://www.senedd.assembly.wales/mglssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=23898



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National Assembly for Wales Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, CF99 1NA 0300 200 6565

I would be grateful if you could send your response by e-mail to the clerking team at **SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales**.

If you have any queries, please contact the Committee clerking team at the e-mail address above, or on 0300 200 6379.

Yours sincerely

David J Rowlands AM

Chair

Agenda Item 3.10

Rt. Hon Stephen Barclay MP Secretary of State for Exiting the EU Whitehall, London

19th February 2019,

Dear Stephen,

We are writing you jointly as the Children's Commissioners for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland about Brexit and the implications for children. While we continue to have reservations about the degree to which children have been engaged and considered during the Brexit process, we have immediate concerns about the provision for children from the 1st April 2019. Below we have outlined some of the most pressing issues on which we seek assurance. While we appreciate that the UK Government has many pressing concerns in preparing for a potential no-deal Brexit, we are sure you will agree that nothing is more important than children and their safety. We would therefore be grateful if you, and your cabinet colleagues, could address the points below to assure us, and numerous other partners, that the protection of children is being considered by the UK Government in preparing for Brexit.

Co-operation on child protection and law enforcement

As you will know, while individual states have strategies for the prevention of child abuse and exploitation, there is an important international dimension. Whether this be international criminal gangs which exploit children or networks of paedophiles across countries who abuse them, it is vital that the reach of law enforcement matches that of these criminals. For example, the viewing and sharing of child abuse images nearly always involves a network, often international. This means an offender may be discovered elsewhere in the EU, but resident and presenting a threat to children in the UK. At present, pan-EU cooperation protocols enable such information to be shared swiftly.

Similar issues apply to children who are trafficked into the UK. Generally, these children will arrive from Europe, even if their home country was outside the EU. Co-operation in identifying and tracking these children is vital both in protecting these children, giving aid to victims, closing down the networks, and ensuring perpetrators are brought to justice. The importance of doing this does not end when children are identified within the UK, as a large proportion of child trafficking victims who are identified then go missing, and may end up in the EU.

The same is true for abducted children, including those taken by a parent who may pose an immediate danger to them or a teen groomed by an older man. If abducted children are taken abroad, states need to be able both to arrest and extradite the perpetrator and ensure immediate steps are taken to protect the child. The co-operation of EU member states is vital in enabling this. This is just one of many examples where the European Arrest Warrant, and other associated aspects of police co-operation is used to keep children safe. These issues are exacerbated for children living in Northern Ireland and we ask that particular consideration is given to this area.

If we were to continue to have visa-free travel between Britain and the EU, yet not have the police and security co-operation underpinning this, the system would have serious and immediate weaknesses that undermine the protection of children. We need to ensure that strong child protection protocols, including information-sharing, are in place as soon as we lose EU co-operation. Therefore we would be grateful if you could:

1) Explain the status of UK participation in policing and security co-operation, including the European Arrest Warrant, Europol (including co-operation on image hashing), Eurojust and ECRIS if the Withdrawal Agreement is ratified.

2) Lay-out the no deal contingency planning, including specific descriptions of the protocols which would be in place on the 1st April to cover trafficking, abuse images and abduction.

Co-operation on family law matters

As well as co-operation on criminal law enforcement and child protection there is crucial co-operation on civil law procedures and child protection. There are, and will continue to be, numerous EU national children in contact with children's services across the UK, and children, including UK national children who have a parent living elsewhere in the EU. Ongoing co-operation between jurisdictions, including mutual recognition of civil child protection cases is vital for the immediate safety of the children concerned, and the long-term protection of their right to family life¹. As well as the immediate issues for these children, there are longer-term issues for the system. If family courts regularly have to decide on jurisdictional issues, forum bars, cross-border applications etc. then we will need *far* greater capacity in all elements of the system.

Therefore it is imperative that the UK Government:

- 1) Sets out its no-deal contingency planning for cross-border civil child protection processes in the event of no-deal Brexit scenario. Including what would happen if a child is removed from the UK to circumvent a child protection plan or care order after April 1st;
- 2) Explains the longer-term plans for cross-European co-operation in the child protection system and family court system;
- 3) Publishes clear guidance for local institutions on the immediate and long-term planning they need to be undertaking on Brexit.

Criminal records and staff vetting

There are a large number of EU nationals working in childcare positions across the UK. At present information sharing across the EU enables criminal-record checks issued in the UK to be informed by information gathered in other countries. It is vital for the safety of children that EU national staff continue to be able to work with children, and to do so having been adequately vetted. This requires that the criminal record clearance continues to be informed by intelligence from other countries in which the professional has worked. Can you please explain the immediate contingency planning for co-operating on staff vetting in the case of no deal, and the long-term plans for collaboration on the issuing of DBS checks if the withdrawal agreement is ratified? We would be grateful if you could also provide assurances that consideration has been given to how these arrangements will apply to people travelling across the Irish Border.

We would be grateful for a formal response responding to all the points in this letter by the 4th March.

If you have any queries about any issue raised in this letter, please contact Martin Lennon, Head of Public Affairs for the Children's Commissioner for England (martin.lennon@childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Anne Longfield OBE, Children's Commissioner for England
Sally Holland, Comisiynydd Plant Cymru, Children's Commissioner for Wales
Bruce Adamson, Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland
Koulla Yiasouma, Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People

¹ For further examples please see https://www.familylaw.co.uk/news and comment/part-2-the-implications-of-a-no-deal-brexit-for-cross-border-children-s-cases

- cc. Rt Hon Nicola Sturgeon MSP, First Minister of Scotland
 - Rt. Hon Mark Drakeford AM, First Minister of Wales
 - Rt. Hon Sajid Javid MP, Home Secretary
 - Rt. Hon Damian Hinds MP, Education Secretary
 - Rt Hon Karen Bradley MP, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland
 - Michael Russell MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Government Business and Constitutional Relations
 - Rt. Hon Hilary Benn MP, Chair, Brexit Select Committee
 - Rt. Hon Yvette Cooper MP, Chair, Home Affairs Select Committee
 - Rt. Hon Robert Halfon MP, Chair, Education Select Committee
 - Dr Andrew Murrison MP, Chair NI Affairs Committee

Agenda Item 6

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Agenda Item 8

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Agenda Item 9

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