

Julie Morgan AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Mick Antoniw MS
Chair, Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay CF99 1SN

20 November 2020

Dear Mick,

The Adoption and Fostering (Wales) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020

Thank you for your letter regarding The Adoption and Fostering (Wales) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020.

I note your comment relating to the publishing of the Children's Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) that was produced at the time the temporary easement to the Adoption Agencies (Wales) Regulations 2005 was approved to support the adoption sector during the pandemic. At the time of writing there was no organisational requirement to publish CRiAs. A decision was taken in July 2020 to publish all CRiAs from the 1st January 2020. The CRiA is now published and is available via the link below:

<https://gov.wales/adoption-agencies-wales-regulations-2020-childrens-rights-impact-assessment-html>

Whilst we aspire to publish all supporting documents at the same time as the main legislative documents are laid before the Senedd, the volume of legislation and work related to Covid-19 has had a major impact on workload and the ability to meet timescales; as a result the relevant sections of the Integrated Impact Assessment and summary of consultation responses were published as soon as possible. I would like to acknowledge the pace at which officials worked to expedite these Regulations to support an urgent and problematic issue which could have adversely impacted on the sufficiency of placements for looked after children in Wales. It was not appropriate to delay the Regulations until the other documents were available as there was a need to ensure that the adoption and fostering processes can run as effectively and efficiently as possible to support some of the most vulnerable children in our society during the pandemic. All associated documents have been published and I attach links for your reference:

1. Summary of Consultation Responses:

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2020-10/the-adoption-and-fostering-wales-miscellaneous-amendments-coronavirus-regulations-2020-summary-response.pdf>

2. Integrated Impact Assessment

<https://gov.wales/adoption-and-fostering-wales-miscellaneous-amendment-coronavirus-regulations-2020-integrated-impact-html>

I trust you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

Julie Morgan AS/MS
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Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services

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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.