

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Jenny Rathbone MS
Chair
Equality and Social Justice Committee

17 June 2022

Dear Jenny,

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

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

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

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

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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.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane Hutt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke above the first letter "J".

Jane Hutt AS/MS

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