

CYPE(6)-20-23 – Paper to note 9

Julie Morgan AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Deputy Minister for Social Services

Jayne Bryant MS
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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

26 June 2023

Dear Jayne,

Thank you for your letter of 30 March about data collection for children who are looked after and care leavers to inform the Committee's inquiry and report into radical reform of services for care experienced children and young people.

In your letter you referred to feedback from stakeholders that the Welsh Government recently convened a Children Looked After census review to consider data collection and asked for more details.

The Welsh Government on an ongoing basis convenes a Children's Data Review Group meeting every month to discuss the data collected in both the Children Looked After census, the Children Receiving Care and Support census and the children's component of the Performance and Improvement Framework activity and performance data collection.

These meetings provide local authorities with the opportunity to raise issues and seek clarity about the data collection. Changes to the collections may result from these discussions and any agreed changes are made to the guidance for collection in the following year. Therefore, any agreed actions from the 2022/23 meetings will appear in the collection guidance for 2023/24. This guidance is published on the [Welsh Government website](#).

The Committee may also wish to note that the main changes regarding data on children who are looked after which will appear in the 2023/24 data collections are:

- In the Children Looked After Census:
 - o Expansion of the ethnicity categories
 - o Better understanding of when children are fostered through either not-for-profit or private agencies
 - o Better detail around placement orders for adoption
- Clarified visits and reviews for children looked after in the Performance and Improvement Framework data collection.

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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 hope you have found my reply helpful and I found the evidence provided in your letter insightful and look forward to reading the final report from the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Julie', written in black ink.

Julie Morgan AS/MS

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Deputy Minister for Social Services