

Notes of the Meeting of the Cross-Party Group on Children in Our Care

29.3.23

- 1)** The Chair welcomes all to the meeting. She expressed the gratitude of the CPG to the Deputy Minister for her making time to attend the meeting and explained that time was tight due to the Deputy Minister's other commitments, and that the first part of the Agenda would need to be concluded within 30 minutes.
- 2)** Jackie Murphy of TGP Cymru and Sharon Lovell of NAYAS Cymru shared a shorter version of the presentation that they made to the previous Cross-Party Group. They described some of the achievements of the current system, the challenges, and also highlighted some of the issues facing care experienced children and young people as raised with advocates.
- 3)** There was a discussion. The Deputy Minister responded to the points raised. She stated that she was prepared to consider an independent review of advocacy services. The discussion also touched on some of the other issues that Jackie Murphy and Sharon Lovell had raised, particularly with regard to unregistered and unregulated placements.

The Deputy Minister left the meeting.

- 4)** It was resolved that the Chair should formally write to the Deputy Minister on behalf of the Cross-Party Group requesting that she establish an independent review of the current model of advocacy provision.
- 5)** It was agreed that the next meeting of the Cross-Party Group would focus on unregulated placements as planned, and that the Chair should consider whether to seek input from outside the existing stakeholder group to assist with discussions, possibly from CSSIW.

- 6) The notes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record.
- 7) The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday June 14th at 10.30 am. Meeting to be hybrid, venue on the Senedd estate to be confirmed.