

**Y Pwyllgor Cydraddoldeb
a Chyfiawnder Cymdeithasol**

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**Equality and Social Justice
Committee**

Jane Hutt MS
Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd
and Chief Whip

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Dear Jane,

Speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) in the youth justice system

The Committee recently considered correspondence from Pippa Cotterill, from the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT). Her letter outlines continued concerns regarding funding for the provision of speech and language therapy for young people in the youth justice system in Wales. These concerns expand upon our report and extensive exchange of correspondence on this matter. In particular the RCSLT raise specific concerns about the adequacy of the Turnaround programme funding led by the Ministry of Justice, which is unlikely to support the funding of speech and language therapists in areas which do not already have provision in future.

The Committee would appreciate an update on your discussions with Sir Nic Dakin MP at the Ministry of Justice regarding these concerns. Can you also clarify whether arrangements have been made to meet RCSLT Wales to provide them with an update following your meeting. The Committee request to be kept informed of the outcome of these meetings.

Yours sincerely,



Jenny Rathbone MS

Chair, Equality and Social Justice Committee