

Lynne Neagle MS

Cabinet Secretary for Education

16 March 2026

**Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No 5): Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill**

At the Committee's meeting of Monday 16 March 2026, we considered the supplementary legislative consent memorandum (Memorandum No. 5) which you laid in respect of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill on 10 March 2026.

As you will be aware, on 10 March the Business Committee set tomorrow, 17 March 2026, as the deadline for the Committee to report on Memorandum No. 5, ahead of tomorrow's Plenary debate on a legislative consent motion for the Bill. Given the short period of time between the laying of Memorandum No. 5 and the reporting deadline, we have been unable to undertake full and meaningful consideration of, and to report on, the memorandum, which is regrettable.

However, as a result of the consideration we were able to undertake in the time available, we noted a number of issues which we believe should be addressed by you ahead of, or during, tomorrow's debate. We believe that this is necessary so that Members of the Senedd are provided with appropriate clarity.

I am copying this letter to Buffy Williams MS, Chair of the Children, Young People and Education Committee.

Yours sincerely,



Mike Hedges

Chair



## Annex

1. Please can you confirm whether the UK Government agrees that the legislative consent of the Senedd is required in relation to the provisions set out in Memorandum No. 5?
2. Please can you confirm that the only change to clause 39 (as referred to in Memorandum No. 5) for which consent is sought, in addition to the matters set out in previous Memoranda, is in relation to the inclusion of the Senedd approval procedure for regulations implementing the pilot scheme referred to in clause 39?
3. We are aware that the UK Government has disagreed to certain Lords amendments and tabled amendments in lieu to the Bill at ping-pong of amendments between the House of Commons and House of Lords during the Final Stages. Please can you explain any implications of these events generally, and in particular, the impact for Wales of the amendments in lieu relating to online safety and for the legislative consent process in relation to this Bill?

