

Jocelyn Davies AM
Chair of the Finance Committee
National Assembly of Wales

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Cardiff Bay
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25 March 2015

Dear Jocelyn

Thank you for your letter of 10 March about the Commission's latest Corporate Performance Report for the period April to December 2014. You asked for further information about the Assembly Commission staff survey and the number of schools engaging with the Assembly for the first time.

The last staff survey was done in July 2013 and the results and agreed action plan were published in October 2013. The key themes emerging from the survey centred on recruitment, performance management, accommodation and career progression. As the themes were similar to those in the previous year's survey, we decided to take time to examine and address the issues. We therefore decided not to complete a survey in 2014 and have been planning for the next survey in May 2015. As part of this planning, the survey will be linked to a wider set of staff engagement activities, such as discussion sessions with me.

On the lower number of new schools, you are right to point to the challenge this target presents for us. We are trying to move from a reactive service to a proactive one, with the explicit aim of engaging with all secondary schools in Wales over a period of three years, not just those schools who are already in the habit of engaging with us. We had a peak in engagement activity linked to the initial phase of the Youth Engagement Strategy (between July and November 2013), as we used the resources of this initiative to reach out to more secondary schools; the engagement plan returned to more normal levels the following year.



Although the KPI figures include both primary and secondary schools, our priority under the Youth Engagement Strategy is to focus more of our work on secondary schools. You may be interested to note that, of the 208 secondary schools in Wales, 48 have not engaged with us so far during this Assembly. However, we are determined that we will have engaged with 100% of secondary schools by the end of this Assembly.

In October, a qualified youth worker joined the team to develop our youth engagement activities across Wales to make sure we go beyond our work with schools. Numerous meetings with organisations and groups working with young people outside the 'classroom experience' have taken place. For example, in December two workshops were held with the BA Youth and Community Work students at the University of Wales, Trinity St David's.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Claire". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and a horizontal line underneath the name.

Claire Clancy

**Prif Weithredwr a Chlerc/Chief Executive and Clerk
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru/National Assembly for Wales**

