

**Y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc
Children and Young People Committee**

William Powell AM
Chair
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff CF99 1NA

Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay
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3 October 2011

Dear Bill

Thank you for your letter of 14 July 2011, regarding Petition P-03-305 on Statutory School Libraries. The Children and Young People Committee considered your request to take forward the issues raised by the petition in a private meeting on Wednesday 21 September.

The Committee warmly endorsed school library services and recognised that they provide a valuable service in supporting the development of many skills including literacy, research and independent investigative skills. However, we were not convinced that they should be a statutory requirement at this time, particularly in view of the current financial position.

The Committee has written to the Minister for Education and Skills regarding his future intentions for school library services more generally and would be happy to share a copy of his response with you, but in terms of the specific issues raised by the petition, the Committee is not inclined to take this any further.

Yours sincerely



**Christine Chapman AM
Committee Chair**