

**Vaughan Gething AC/AM**  
**Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau**  
**Cymdeithasol**  
**Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services**



**Huw Irranca-Davies AC/AM**  
**Y Gweinidog Gofal Cymdeithasol a Phlant**  
**Minister for Children and Social Care**

Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MA P HID 4289 17

Lynne Neagle AM  
Chair, Children, Young People and Education Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay, Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

1 December 2017

Dear Lynne,

At the Children, Young People and Education Committee held on 22 November 2017, we agreed to provide you with some further information arising from discussions at that meeting.

You asked for information on the following two areas:

- The process adopted by the Welsh Government to establish whether it is appropriate to undertake a Child's Rights Impact Assessment as opposed to an Integrated Impact Assessment, particularly in the context of the Draft Budget (Llyr Gruffydd AM).
- The funding forecast for the Flying Start, Families First and Communities First programmes. (Lynne Neagle AM)

The information below follows the same order as these bullets.

**The process adopted by the Welsh Government to establish whether it is appropriate to undertake a Child's Rights Impact Assessment as opposed to an Integrated Impact Assessment, particularly in the context of the Draft Budget**

Impact assessments for programmes and policies, including children's rights impact assessments, are carried out as the proposals for those programmes and policies are developed. Therefore, where they are required they are carried out, and reviewed as necessary, from the development stage through to implementation and review of the policy or programme.

To decide whether a full Children's Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) is required, all officials have access to guidance on CRIsAs, including a training package on the Welsh

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Government intranet and a template setting out the steps to completing a CRIA. The Children's Rights Scheme provides a series of flowcharts to help officials to decide whether a CRIA is required. The CRIA template and flowcharts from the Children's Rights Scheme are attached at Annexes 1, 2 and 3 for reference.

An integrated impact assessment of the 2018-19 outline draft Budget was published as part of the budget package on 3 October, this included Children's Rights and can be found at <http://gov.wales/docs/caecd/publications/171003-budget-narrative-a-en.pdf>. As part of the detailed budget planning undertaken by Ministers on decisions taken within their portfolios a range of impacts are considered. Full assessments will only be carried out where they are considered necessary, if a budget decision has led to a change in policy.

Following the production of the Public Policy Institute for Wales report 'Reducing Complexity and Adding Value: A Strategic Approach to Impact Assessment in the Welsh Government', a project is currently underway to deliver a new framework for impact assessments in 2018. The framework's objectives include

- giving clear and explicit purposes for impact assessments across the range of government interventions;
- reducing complexity and applying impact assessments in a proportionate way while concentrating on the quality of understanding, evidence and judgment; and,
- integrating the impact assessment process with the substantive direction of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.

The Wales Observatory on the Human Rights of Children and Young People's evaluation of the CRIA process in 2015 recommended streamlining the CRIA process, and this will be taken account of as part of the project to deliver a new framework for impact assessments.

### **The funding forecast for the Flying Start, Families First and Communities First programmes**

For 2018-19 the Flying Start and Families First allocations to local authorities have been maintained at 2017-18 levels - £76.052 million and £38.352m respectively. This demonstrates the Welsh Government's ongoing commitment to early intervention, prevention and support delivered through these key family support programmes across Wales and enables us to build on the positive outcomes achieved so far.

In February 2017, the former Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children announced the Communities First programme would be phased out by March 2018. In 2018-19, £24.035m is available to support Communities for Work Plus (£11.891m) and Legacy Fund (£6.000m), with remaining funding (£6.144m) covering Communities for Work match funding, Shared Outcomes projects (Citizens Advice Cymru and Streetgames) and a contractual commitment with Big Lottery for the former Community Asset Transfer Scheme.

Yours sincerely,



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