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

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



Dear Lynne 11 July 2018

Children and Families Delivery Grant

In your letter of 8 May you asked for an update around the current position with the Children and Families Delivery Grant (CFDG).

As your letter rightly points out, CFDG was always scheduled to run from 2014 to 2017. It was not designed to be a long term funding stream and was limited in duration to 3 years with any future iterations of the grant intended to evolve so as to support changing Government priorities.

For 2018-19 funding has been agreed for the following organisations in line with Welsh Government priorities:

- Play Wales £360,000 to enable Play Wales to continue its valuable work in providing strategic support to the Welsh Government, the local authorities and the play sector to increase and improve children's play opportunities throughout Wales.
- Cwlwm £1,444,410 to enable the Cwlwm consortium to continue its valuable work in providing support to the childcare and play sector and working with Welsh Government to deliver on its key childcare objectives, such as the Childcare Offer, the Childcare, Play and Early Years Workforce Plan and Cymraeg 2050. Alongside this funding, the Minister for Welsh Language and Lifelong Learning has provided an additional grant allocation of £190,000 to Cwlwm to expand the Welsh language support available to its member settings.

Arad Research was commissioned by Cwlwm in 20-17 to undertake a review of the development and effectiveness of the partnership working of Cwlwm. The report which can be found here http://www.meithrin.cymru/news/i/115656/desc/cwlwm-report/

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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.

presented the findings of the review and included key lessons and recommendations for Cwlwm and stakeholders, such as the Welsh Government and local authorities. These are being taken forward as part of Cwlwm's business plan for 2018-19.

Turning to Children in Wales, funding was extended until 30 September 2018 while a review was undertaken. This brings the total amount of funding awarded to Children in Wales since 2014 to £2,431,617. The aims and objectives of the grant are to improve the well-being of children, young people and families living in poverty or deprivation in Wales by:

- Informing and enabling children and young people to participate effectively and have their views heard by Ministers and policy makers;
- Ensuring that the children and young people's workforce is informed of children's right to participate and for the structures to be in place that facilitate the sharing of effective methods of participation;
- Supporting a better informed and engaged multi-agency cross sector workforce including policy makers and practitioners to deliver Government Policy;
- Effectively influencing and contributing to policy and practice development with an emphasis on early intervention, prevention and mitigation of poverty, underpinned by Welsh Government strategic priorities.

The review has been completed and I am currently considering its findings and recommendations. I will update Committee once a decision has been taken.

Yours sincerely

Huw Irranca-Davies AC/AM

Y Gweinidog Gofal Cymdeithasol a Phlant Minister for Children and Social Care