

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg

National Assembly for Wales
Children, Young People and Education Committee

Huw Irranca–Davies AM
Minister for Children, Older People and Social Care
By email

23 October 2018

Dear Huw,

Childcare Funding (Wales) Bill: Stage 2 proceedings

Thank you for attending the Committee’s Stage 2 proceedings on the Childcare Funding (Wales) Bill last week.

At the end of the meeting, I indicated that I would write to you to seek clarification on the information you gave in relation to registration requirements for those wishing to provide childcare funded under this Bill’s provisions.

During Stage 1, the Committee had understood that:

- The Child Minding and Day Care Exceptions (Wales) Order 2010 (“the Order”) exempts nannies from a requirement to register with Care Inspectorate Wales, although they can register through a different “voluntary registration scheme”. As a result of this, they are excluded from providing childcare funded under the Bill’s provisions. We had further understood that the Welsh Government does not plan to change that position.
- Schools are also currently unable, due to the Order, to register with Care Inspectorate Wales as childcare providers. In order to deliver childcare funded by the offer, schools would either:
 - i. need to host/work in partnership with a registered childcare provider (in such circumstances the childcare provider would operate as a separate business distinct from the school itself); or



- ii. create a separate body in order that representatives of the school can register with the Inspectorate and therefore provide childcare on the school site (this body would be entirely separate from the school and would require its own governance structure).
- The Welsh Government plans to issue a call for evidence in relation to the Order *“in the autumn and would expect more information regarding these concerns to come forward as part of that review”* (WG response to the CYPE Committee’s Stage 1 Report).

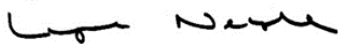
Following Stage 2 proceedings, particularly discussions on Group 9 (Categories of providers of funded childcare), we were left unclear whether we had understood the current position – and the Welsh Government’s future intentions – correctly.

The Committee would therefore welcome clarification on the following:

- whether it is the Welsh Government’s intention to enable schools to provide childcare funded under this Bill’s provisions without the need for a separate “responsible person” to register with the Care Inspectorate Wales (and, if so, what the associated processes and timescales are likely to be for this change to be made);
- the Welsh Government’s position in relation to the provision, by nannies, of childcare funded under this Bill.

I would welcome a response to this letter as soon as possible to inform Members tabling and consideration of amendments at Stage 3.

Yours sincerely,



Lynne Neagle AM
Chair

