Dear Ministers,

Mind Over Matter: follow-up

As you are aware, we are approaching one year since the publication of the Children, Young People and Education Committee’s Mind Over Matter report. As with all our work, we are committed to following up on progress in relation to our recommendations.

In August 2018 I wrote on behalf of the Committee to request a revised written response to Mind Over Matter. This was requested by March 2019 and arose following cross-party consensus in the Siambr that the original response did not meet the ambition outlined in our report. You agreed to this request in your letter of 7 September 2018 and outlined the work you had underway to establish the Joint Ministerial Task and Finish (JMTF) Group.

To inform our follow-up work, and to make our scrutiny as transparent as possible, we would be grateful if your response addressed each of our original recommendations individually. Given the relevance of the work of the Together for Children and Young People (T4CYP) Programme and the Joint Ministerial Task and Finish Group, we would also welcome an update on their work. We are happy to receive this information either as part of your response or as separate papers. I have copied the Chair of T4CYP for awareness.

We will set time aside before the summer recess to invite you both to attend Committee to discuss progress and next steps. The Committee Clerk will contact your officials to agree a mutually convenient date.

Yours sincerely,

Lynne Neagle AM
Chair

Cc Carol Shillabeer, Chair, Together for Children and Young People (T4CYP) Programme