



Ein cyf/Our ref: MA-L/JM/0484/19

Lynne Neagle AM
Chair
Children, Young People and Education Committee
National Assembly for Wales
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12 July 2019

Dear Lynne

Thank you for your letter dated 26 June regarding Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill: children's awareness.

The primary aim of this Bill is to help protect children's rights and as such we are committed to raising awareness of the legislation amongst children.

In order to do this in the most effective and appropriate way we are currently consulting with experts in the third sector on best practice within this specialist area of communication. The main forum for this is the Bill's Expert Stakeholder Group which comprises representation from the Children's Commissioner for Wales, NSPCC Cymru / Wales, Barnardo's Cymru, Children in Wales, Save the Children and Action for Children.

Our intention is to consult with Young Wales, through Children in Wales, before Royal Assent in order to hear their views which will help inform and shape our engagement plans, should the Bill become law. We will also be meeting with organisations such as Cwlwm to discuss how to ensure that adults who care for pre-school aged children are aware of the legislation and to ensure that they have appropriate resources.

I consider that it would be more appropriate to embed awareness- raising within existing initiatives so that it can be framed and discussed within the children's rights context in a safe and appropriate setting. I know that the Expert Stakeholder Group share the same view.

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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.

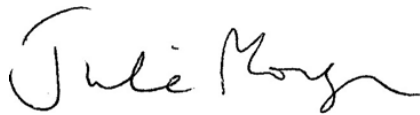
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

My officials will be working with colleagues who are overseeing the development of the new curriculum, to ensure that the objectives of the legislation are considered as part of this work. We will also be working with the Children's Commissioner and the NSPCC to understand how it will be embedded in their school-facing projects.

Learning to support understanding of rights is provided for in the draft guidance for both the Health and Well-being and Humanities Areas of Learning and Experiences. Colleagues in Education have also worked with the office of the Children's Commissioner to ensure that the guidance supports professionals to consider rights education across the whole curriculum.

Our new curriculum is being designed with four purposes at its core. These are central to all decisions made in respect of the new curriculum, and one of the purposes is to support children and young people to become ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world.

I hope that this assures the Committee of my commitment to raise awareness of the legislation amongst children.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Julie Morgan'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Julie Morgan AC/AM

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services

Julie Morgan AM
Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services

26 June 2019

Dear Julie

Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill: children's awareness

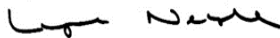
During the course of our scrutiny of the Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill the importance of raising public awareness of the legislation, if passed, has been raised by a number of those who have provided written and oral evidence.

The main focus of contributions to date has been on raising awareness among adults, particularly parents, carers and relevant professionals. As a Committee, we are also conscious of the importance of considering how awareness of the legislation among children would be raised.

As such, we would be grateful if you could outline any information you have on the steps you have considered/will be considering in preparation for raising awareness of the legislation among children, including pre-school children. We would be particularly grateful to know more about the methods that are being/will be developed (and how), and your assessment of the likely level of resource required for such activity.

I have also written to the Children's Commissioner for Wales to request a view from her on this matter.

Yours sincerely



Lynne Neagle AM
Chair

