



Ein cyf/Our ref MA/JM/5128/19

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

11 December 2019

Dear Chair,

I would like to thank the Committee for their continuing scrutiny on the Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill.

During the Committee's Stage 2 scrutiny on 24 October 2019, I offered to work with Members with a view to Stage 3 amendments in respect of the timing and publication of post implementation review reports.

I was pleased to have a positive discussion with Suzy Davies AM and Janet Finch Saunders AM about the post implementation review. We were able to come to an agreement on having both an interim and final post implementation review, which will be both laid before the Assembly and published that will be tabled as a Stage 3 amendment to the Bill.

We also discussed the Members' other amendments tabled at Stage 2, which sought to add detail of what should be included in a post implementation review report on the face of the Bill.

I remain of the opinion that this level of detail is not necessary for the Bill itself. However, I understand the importance of ensuring a comprehensive post implementation review that reports on the effectiveness of the legislation and its impact on front line services and will be writing to the Chair of the Strategic Implementation Group, copied to the Co-Chairs of the Data Collection and Monitoring Task and Finish Group.

I will be asking the Groups to discuss the likely content of the post implementation review and to consider the practicality of covering the issues raised in the Stage 2 amendments tabled by Janet Finch Saunders AM.

I will forward a copy of the letter to the Strategic Implementation Group to the Committee for information.

The next meetings of the Strategic Implementation Group and the Data Collection and Monitoring Task and Finish Group are scheduled for early February. I will ask the Groups to respond, copying the letter to the Committee, as soon as possible after their discussions.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
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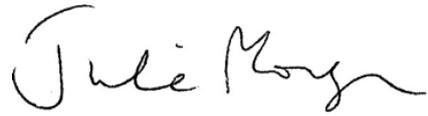
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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.

I look forward to continuing to work with Members as the Bill progresses through the Assembly scrutiny process and will provide further information in relation to a post implementation review as it becomes available.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Morgan'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Julie' written in a larger, more prominent script than the surname 'Morgan'.

Julie Morgan AC/AM

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