

National Assembly for Wales

REPORT BY THE SOCIAL JUSTICE AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

CHILDREN AND ADOPTION BILL

1. The Committee considered the above Regulations at its 20 October 2005 meeting. The item had been remitted to Committee following the debate in Plenary on 21 June 2005.
2. The Bill is divided into two parts: the first dealing with measures in relation to child contact and the second with the powers to impose restrictions on adoptions from specific countries. Part 1 of the Bill is within the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration's remit.
3. There were no proposals for amending the regulations but Members wished to support recent amendments proposed by the NSPCC and Women's Aid regarding Child Contact. These proposals relate to concerns raised about gaps in the legislation and that contact orders are sometimes made inappropriately by courts where there may be issues of domestic abuse. I have written to the Minister of State for Children and Families with these concerns.

Janice Gregory AM
Chair, Social Justice and Regeneration Committee