



**CYNGOR IECHYD CYMUNED
COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL**

BRYCHEINIOG A MAESYFED | BRECKNOCK & RADNOR

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Brecknock & Radnor Community Health Council
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Chairman: Mrs Delcie Davies

21 December 2007

Mr John Grimes
Clerk of the Committee
Assembly Parliamentary Service
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Dear Mr Grimes

Children and Young People Committee call for Evidence into Advocacy Services for Children and Young People

Comments from Brecknock and Radnor Community Health Councils are as follows:

1 Advocacy services must be independently provided and not seen to be part of any statutory agencies. If not recipients of the service will either not use the services or not have complete confidence in the service as being totally independent.

Commissioning monies could/should be allocated to statutory agencies clearly identifying the amount and what advocacy services are to be provided and for whom.

This could be done from LHB's, Local Authorities, CHC's or WCVA. Any agency wishing to have an Advocacy service must advertise for interested parties to tender for the contract setting out in detail how/why they will provide an independent Advocacy service and then sign a Service Level Agreement.

2 i) No?

ii) Yes

3 i) Yes. However it needs to be seen as an independent organisation otherwise it may be perceived as being part of the "establishment".

ii) - Needs to be totally independent
- Developing good/best practice protocols

- Training on a national basis
- Facilitate regular meeting of Advocacy service on a national basis
- Undertake research on the work of Advocacy services on a national and local level.
- Establish close links with local Advocacy Services and give advice on good/best practice working models.
- Sharing good/best practice from local Advocacy services to other Advocacy services.
- Undertake a monitoring role of Advocacy service throughout Wales.
- Help and facilitate User Surveys.

I trust these comments will be taken into consideration.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bryn Williams', with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bryn Williams
Chief Officer