

Children and Young People
Committee

Y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc



Cynulliad National
Cenedlaethol Assembly for
Cymru Wales

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Commissioning of Advocacy Services for Children and Young People

As detailed in my earlier letter of 13 May, the Children and Young People Committee welcomed your commitment, during the plenary debate on 8 May, that the Welsh Assembly Government will review its model for commissioning advocacy services in the future.

The Committee wishes to establish whether the Welsh Assembly Government possesses the legislative competence to implement potential changes to arrangements for commissioning advocacy services, which might be proposed in future review.

In this regard, the Committee would appreciate your views on the following:

Nationally funded body responsible for commissioning local advocacy services

- (1) does the requisite relevant legislative competence currently exist for the Welsh Assembly Government to establish a nationally funded body responsible for commissioning local advocacy services?
- (2) if in your opinion the legislative competence currently exists, from where does it derive?
- (3) if no such legislative competence currently exists, does the Welsh Assembly Government intend to bring forward a Legislative Competence Order specifically enabling it to establish a nationally funded body responsible for commissioning local advocacy services?
- (4) If the answer to (3) above is yes, then when in the Welsh Assembly Government's legislative programme is it envisaged that a Legislative Competence Order will be brought forward?





Removing statutory duties imposed on Local Authorities

- (5) if the Welsh Assembly Government decides to amend the current commissioning model for advocacy services, so that a nationally-funded body, rather than local authorities, were responsible for commissioning local advocacy services, in your opinion, would it be necessary to remove existing statutory duties on local authorities such as the duties contained in section 26A of the Children Act 1989?
- (6) if the answer to (5) above is yes, does the requisite relevant legislative competence currently exist for the Welsh Assembly Government to remove statutory duties on local authorities in Wales?
- (7) if no such legislative competence currently exists, does the Welsh Assembly Government intend to bring forward a Legislative Competence Order and subsequent Measure enabling it to do so?
- (8) if the answer to (7) above is yes, then when in the Welsh Assembly Government's legislative programme is it envisaged that a Legislative Competence Order and subsequent Measure will be brought forward?

I would be very grateful for your consideration of the matters outlined above, and look forward to receiving your reply.

Cofreio gorsau

Helen Mary Jones
Chair, Children and Young People Committee