
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg

National Assembly for Wales

Children, Young People and Education Committee

Aled Evans,
Chair, Association of Directors of Education in Wales (ADEW)

Cllr Debbie Wilcox
Leader, Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA)

16 January 2019

Dear both,

Progress in developing the new curriculum for Wales

On **10 January 2019** the Children, Young People and Education Committee scrutinised the Minister for Education on the Welsh Government's progress in developing the new curriculum for Wales. During the session, information provided in your **joint response to the Committee's written consultation** on this subject was discussed.

In your joint response to the Committee's consultation you raised a number of significant concerns about the steps underway to develop the new curriculum. Members put these concerns to the Minister at the session last week. The Minister and her officials expressed disappointment at reading your joint evidence, and explained that further efforts had been made – and would continue to be made – to improve communications in light of the evidence received..

In particular, the Minister and her officials commented in their evidence that:

- the information on which the joint response appeared to be based did not to draw on the latest information available to ADEW and the WLGA, including the latest versions of the draft Areas of Learning and Experience that had been shared;
- the joint evidence showed a lack of understanding of the stated vision for curriculum reform;
- ADEW's engagement with curriculum implementation board meetings had been limited;
- concerns detailed in the written evidence had not been raised in regular meetings between WLGA/ADEW representatives with relevant Welsh Ministers;



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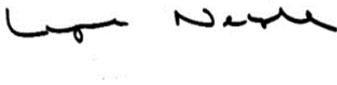
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- the apparent disconnect between the joint response and the evidence of the Regional Consortia was a matter of concern.

The Committee is keen to enable an opportunity for the WLGA and ADEW to reply to the points made in the session on 10 January, and to clarify, in particular, your respective positions in relation to each of the bullet points listed above, and any other matters raised on which you may have a view.

In light of the imminent publication of the draft AoLEs, and the Committee's desire to ensure that progress in relation to the development of the new curriculum is scrutinised in a transparent and timely manner, we would be grateful to receive your response as soon as possible, and no later than **Friday 1 February 2019**.

Yours sincerely,



Lynne Neagle AM
Chair

Cc

Kirsty Williams AM, Minister for Education, Welsh Government

Chris Llewelyn, Chief Executive, WLGA

Pierre Bernhard-Grout, ADEW Liaison/Policy Officer

