

**Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc
ac Addysg**

**Children, Young People
and Education Committee**

Senedd Cymru

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Andrew RT Davies MS

Member of the Welsh Parliament for South Wales Central

11 March 2024

Re: CAFCASS

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your letter dated 23 February about Cafcass Cymru, which we discussed during our meeting on 28 February.

We have not undertaken a review of Cafcass Cymru during this Senedd. Whilst we recognise its important role in promoting the voices of children and young people within the family court setting, we currently have no plans to do so. However, as you may know, we recently published a report on services for care experienced children and young people. The report considers the family court, and notes concerns about staffing shortages at local authorities and at Cafcass Cymru, which were reported to us by President of the Family Division Sir Andrew McFarlane. You and your constituent may find the 'The Family Court' section starting at paragraph 123 particularly relevant to your concerns. Cafcass Cymru also provided us with comprehensive written evidence to support our inquiry, which, again, you may find useful.

In 2012, the Children and Young People Committee of the Fourth Assembly carried out a short inquiry into Cafcass Cymru which touches on the concerns you raised in your letter (although I appreciate that the situation is likely to have changed considerably since then).

I will, of course, keep you informed of any relevant future work we undertake.

I have copied in the Chair of the Health and Social Care Committee for his information.

Yours sincerely,

Jayne Bryant



**Senedd Cymru
Welsh Parliament**

Jayne Bryant MS
Chair

Cc. Russell George MS
Chair of the Health and Social Care Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English