

16 March 2018

Dear Colleagues,

The Children, Young People and Education Committee is planning to hold a one-off scrutiny session with the WJEC and Qualifications Wales in early May 2018. The purpose of the session is to consider the provision of textbooks and learning resources for pupils taking reformed general qualifications (GCSEs and A Levels) in Wales. We are particularly concerned about the availability of Welsh medium resources and the resources available in specific subjects.

We have heard anecdotal concerns that some pupils have not had access to the resources, in the language of their choice, that they feel necessary to achieve their potential.

We have received letters from WJEC and Qualifications Wales setting out their position. I attach the correspondence for awareness (see Annex A).

To inform our work in this area, the Committee would be grateful if you could provide any information or views you have on:

- whether there is a shortage of the necessary Welsh-medium, or English-medium, text books or learning resources, for pupils in Wales undertaking their GCSEs and A levels;
- whether there are any shortages or issues in any particular subjects;
- whether you believe any of the reported difficulties will have/has had an impact on pupil outcomes;



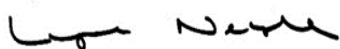
- your confidence in the availability of resources and textbooks in future, given the increasing distinctiveness of the Welsh curriculum;
- the role of the WJEC and Qualifications Wales in ensuring the adequate provision of resources; and
- any other thoughts or comments on the provision of learning resources in Wales.

We would appreciate it if you could provide a response by the **end of Thursday 19 April**.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk, Llinos Madeley, if you would like to discuss this request in more detail – Llinos.Madeley@assembly.wales / 0300 200 6352.

We look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely



Lynne Neagle AC / AM
Cadeirydd / Chair

Recipients: Children's Commissioner, Welsh Language Commissioner, Estyn, ERW, EAS, CSCJES, GwE, NAHT Cymru, ASCL Cymru, NEU, NASUWT, UCAC and Voice Cymru

