

Alun Davies, AM
Minister for Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language

26 May 2017

Dear Alun

Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Bill: Revised Costs

Thank you for your letter of 25 May, and for the update on the anticipated changes to the Regulatory Impact Assessment, following concerns raised with the Committee by SNAP Cymru.

As highlighted in our Stage 1 Report on the Bill, the Committee was already extremely concerned about the robustness of the Regulatory Impact Assessment. One of our recommendations is that you revisit and provide clarity on the cost and saving estimates before bringing forward a revised Explanatory Memorandum following Stage 2.

The changes to the potential costs and savings, set out in your letter, are very significant and represent a massive increase in the overall costs of the Bill. It is very disappointing that these revised figures were not available during the Committee's Stage 1 scrutiny, so that they could be fully considered and factored into our conclusions and recommendations.

In the short time available before the Stage 1 debate, and consideration of the financial resolution, I appreciate that it may not be possible to publish a fully revised Regulatory Impact Assessment. Therefore, to help inform the Assembly's considerations, it would be of great benefit if you could publish a detailed summary of the changes, clearly outlining the revised best estimate of the costs and savings for the Bill.



Clearly, the Committee would not wish to cause any further delay to the legislative timetable for the Bill, but it is important that the Assembly understands the costs of the Bill before moving forward to Stage 2.

I have copied this letter to Simon Thomas, Chair of the Finance Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynne Neagle', written in a cursive style.

Lynne Neagle AC / AM
Cadeirydd / Chair

