



Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-787
Ein cyf/Our ref EM/05003/17

David John Rowlands AM
Chair - Petitions committee.
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

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14 November 2017

Dear John

Thank you for your letter dated 11th October concerning Youth Work funding being distributed to local authorities through the Revenue Support Grant.

As acknowledged in your letter, some of the funding currently available for Youth Work goes directly to the local authorities through the Revenue Support Grant (RSG). The purpose of this is to ensure that local authorities are able to use the funding in line with their own locally identified priorities. We are aware that local authorities currently spend differing percentages of their RSG funding on youth work. We are also aware that the Children, Young People and Education Committee Report of the Inquiry into Youth Work "What type of youth service does Wales want?" covers this issue and asks for mechanisms to be put in place to ensure local authorities are held to account for the use of funding for youth work.

As I advised in my response to the Committee's recommendations, I am in the process of reviewing Extending Entitlement. Engagement with the sector to undertake this work is underway. I have asked Margaret Jervis to look at Extending Entitlement, to help shape the statutory direction and guidance needed to reflect today's legislative, policy and financial landscape, and set realistic expectations for what can be achieved. As part of this there will be a consultation in the new year on the way forward.

Additionally I have previously set out the intention to establish a new National Youth Support Services Board. The Board would advise on the future of youth services in Wales, including the implementation of the revised Extending Entitlement and future National Youth Work Strategy, along with the appropriate use of funding to support these key strategies.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

However, it is important that we allow Margaret sufficient time to complete her review and for the sector to reflect on its findings to ensure that we achieve maximum impact for the benefit of the young people we are seeking to support. I therefore do not intend making changes to existing funding arrangements at this time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. E. Morgan'.

Eluned Morgan AC/AM

Gweinidog y Gymraeg a Dysgu Gydol Oes
Minister for Welsh Language and Lifelong Learning