Kirsty Williams AC
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg
Llywodraeth Cymru

03 Mai 2018

Annwyl Kirsty

Cyfarfodydd gyda'r Athro Mel Ainscow

Fel y gwyddoch, fel rhan o ymchwiliad y Pwyllgor i gyllid wedi'i dargedu i wella canlyniadau addysgol, cafodd y Pwyllgor dystiolaeth gan yr Athro Mel Ainscow. Yn sgil y trafodaethau a gafwyd yn ystod yr ymchwiliad, mynegwd pryder ynghylch lefel yr ymgysylltu sydd wedi digwydd rhwng y Llywodraeth a'r Athro Mel Ainscow ers mis Mawrth 2017.

Yn ystod eich sesiwn dystiolaeth lafar ar 22 Mawrth, gofynnwyd i chi am lefel yr ymgysylltu a oedd wedi digwydd rhyngoch chi neu eich swyddogion a'r Athro Ainscow. Wrth ymateb, gwnaethoch wrthod yr awgrym nad oedd unrhyw gyfarfodydd wedi cael eu cynnal ers mis Mawrth 2017. Mae darn o drawsgrifiad y cyfarfod wedi'i gynnwys fel Atodiad i'r llythyr hwn.

Ar 11 Ebrill, gwnaethoch ddarparu y wybodaeth ychwanegol a ganlyn i'r Pwyllgor ynghylch eich gweithgarwch ymgysylltu â'r Athro Ainscow:

"Cyfarfu uwch swyddogion, gan gynnwys Steve Davies a'r cyn Cyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol dros Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus, â'r Athro Ainscow ym Mawrth 2017. Yn dilyn hyn, anfonodd yr Athro Ainscow amlinelliad i'm swyddogion o wersi a ddysgwyd gan Ysgolion Her Cymru. Cafwyd cyfnewid negeseuon e-bost rhwng fy swyddogion a'r Athro Ainscow ym mis Mehefin 2017 ynghylch gwerthusiad Ysgolion Her Cymru. Yna mynychodd yr Athro Ainscow ddigwyddiad dathlu Ysgolion Her

Cymru, a gynhaliwyd ym mis Gorffennaf 2017 a mynychodd nifer o fy uwch swyddogion."

Mae'r wybodaeth ychwanegol hon yn awgrymu na chynhaliwyd unrhyw gyfarfodydd gyda'r Athro Ainscow ers mis Mawrth 2017. Hoffai'r Pwyllgor fynegi pryder mewn perthynas â'r anghysondeb yn y wybodaeth a ddarparwyd ar y mater hwn, a byddai'n croesawu eglurhad ynghylch pa wybodaeth sy'n gywir.

Yn gywir

Lynne Neagle AC
Cadeirydd

Atodiad: Darn o drawsgrifiad y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd gan y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg ar 22 Mawrth (yn yr iaith wreiddiol)

Darren Millar AC

Yes, I just wanted to ask you, you mentioned the figurehead there, I assume by 'the figurehead' you mean Professor Ainscow. And you've mentioned as well that you said you wanted to learn lessons from Schools Challenge Cymru, but he told us that nobody had been in touch with him since March of last year in order to have any sort of follow-up engagement, or to have a dialogue about his perspective on what worked, what didn't work, why there were failures in some areas and why there were successes in others. Why haven't you sought that level of engagement with the person who was responsible for running the programme?

Kirsty Williams AC

I've had that conversation with Mr Ainscow. We had the evaluation of the programme. We've spoken to the people who were actually involved in running the programme on a daily basis in individual schools. We've spoken to the regional consortia. We've spoken to local education authorities. We've spoken to a wide variety of people to get their insight into the lessons learned, what was valuable and what was not valuable. So, a wide variety of people have been involved in those conversations.

Darren Millar AC

But you've hardly engaged with Mr Ainscow—with Professor Ainscow himself.

Steve Davies

I would actually say that I have had meetings—

Darren Millar AC

Since March of last year.

Steve Davies

Yes, since March of last year. I haven't got the exact dates for you. I've had discussions with Mel Ainscow, and my line manager at the time, Owen Evans, also had meetings and discussions.

Darren Millar AC

So, when he told us, 'Since last March, I literally have had no contact at all with anybody from Welsh Government', he was telling porky pies, was he?

Steve Davies

That's not my recollection. I'll go back and check for you.

Kirsty Williams AC

As I said, I met with him, Steve has met with him, Owen Evans has met with him, my special policy adviser has met with him and had discussions. So, there has been an ongoing dialogue.