

**Leighton Andrews AC/AM**

**Y Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg & Dysgu Gydol Oes  
Minister for Children, Education & Lifelong Learning**



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-298  
Ein cyf/Our ref LA/00764/11

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair - Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

31 March 2011

*Dear Aislin,*

Thank you for your letter of 18 March about petition 03-298 'financing the provision of Welsh language resources for people with dyslexia'.

You asked why my Department had not supported a proposal from Estyn to look at the quality of Welsh medium support for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) in 2011-12. This year's remit was developed following a rigorous process which involved Estyn officials at every stage. The possibility of work on Welsh medium support for ALN was discussed at an early stage of this process, among other topics. The Chief Inspector indicated at the outset of the process that Estyn would be able to undertake fifteen Remit items only in 2011-12, which generated competition for places. My priority was to include items that would inform my stated strategic objectives. I am satisfied that the final remit to the Chief Inspector fulfils that aim.

There is, of course, nothing to prevent Estyn from undertaking this research separately from the annual remit. The Education Act 2005 (S20(4)) states that the Chief Inspector may at any time give advice to the Assembly on any matter connected with schools, or a particular school, in Wales. Alternatively the Chief Inspector may wish to propose the item for inclusion in the remit for 2012-13.

With regard to point two of Estyn's overall conclusions, on the need for Welsh language materials, my officials acknowledge this and will consider the need for more resources to broaden the range of services that are currently available.

Finally, asked about work on the Welsh medium screening tool which we have commissioned Bangor University to develop. I can report that work is well under way and is due for completion in the summer term of 2012.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
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*Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)*

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It is expected that the receptive and productive vocabulary and grammar tasks that are being developed will help to measure both vocabulary and grammatical abilities and therefore help identify those with dyslexia.

I hope this information is useful to you.

Your ever  
Leighton

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