

**Y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc
Children and Young People Committee**

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru
National
Assembly for
Wales

Leighton Andrews AM
Minister for Education and Skills
Welsh Government
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff CF99 1NA



Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd / Cardiff CF99 1NA

19 October 2012

Dear Leighton

We wish to thank you and the Deputy Minister for Skills for attending the Children and Young People Committee meeting on 19 October as part of our scrutiny of the Welsh Government Draft Budget Proposals 2013-14.

The Committee would like to raise an issue relating to the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Bill for your consideration. We are also writing to the Minister for Health and Social Services and the contents of both these letters are being copied to the Finance Committee to inform its overarching strategic scrutiny of the Draft Budget and will appear on the Committee's website.

School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Bill

The Committee has previously voiced concerns about the total implementation cost of the School Improvement Guidance and expressed the view that the Minister has significantly underestimated the costs associated with the operation of local determination panels. We are therefore concerned that the Minister has underestimated the overall cost of the Bill, and there does not appear to be any contingency within the budget, should this be the case.

Additional Information

You agreed to provide the following additional information:

- The type of technologies being used at Ysgol y Bont in Anglesey to support the construction of a new state of the art green school;
- Clarification of which budget line funds the Masters training programme;

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- Details of the projects delivered through the Minority Ethnic Achievement Education of Travellers' Children and Tackling Disaffection grants;
- Whether any local authorities have not bid for the Education of Travellers' Children Grant and have withdrawn services, as a result.

Thank you for assisting the Committee in its work, and we look forward to receiving your response to the points raised in this letter as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christine Chapman".

**Christine Chapman AM
Committee Chair**