

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

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru
National
Assembly for
Wales



Lesley Griffiths AM
Minister for Health and Social Services
Welsh Government
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff CF99 1NA

Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay
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28 February 2013

Dear Minister

Legislative Consent Memorandum for the Children and Families Bill

As you will be aware, the Business Committee has referred the above LCM to us for consideration.

We have had some initial discussions and would be grateful if you would provide some clarification in relation to the following points—

1. Why these provisions were not included within the Welsh Government's Social Services and Well-being Bill as they relate to provisions contained within that Bill. Arguably, such an approach would have complemented the Welsh Government's intention to consolidate legislation wherever possible.
2. What transitional measures are being put into place in relation to the dis-application of the Adoption and Children Act register to Wales, and in particular—
 - i. although the LCM seeks to remove the power of the Secretary of State to direct Welsh local authorities to provide information for the adoption register, will Welsh local authorities continue to do this in practice until a new register for Wales is established?
 - ii. what are the longer term plans for cross-UK sharing of matching data in light of the recent commitments in the Deputy Minister's [response](#) to recommendation 6 in our [report on Adoption](#)?
 - iii. as the Welsh Government currently jointly funds the National Adoption Register for England and Wales, will these arrangements continue in practice until a national register is established for Wales?

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3. What is the timeframe for introducing a new national adoption register for Wales?

As we have to complete our work on the LCM within the next few weeks, I would be grateful for your response by **Wednesday 6 March 2013**. Once Members have had sight of your response, they may wish to invite you to attend a short evidence session, time permitting. I will confirm this with you separately.

A copy of this letter goes to Mark Drakeford AM, Chair of the Health Committee.

Yours sincerely

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

Christine Chapman AM
Chair