

**Y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol
Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee**

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Dr Mike Shooter CBE
Children's Commissioner for Wales
Room 2.113
Crown Buildings
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

12 November 2014

Dear Dr Shooter

**Review of the Role and Functions of the Children's Commissioner for
Wales**

Thank you for your letter dated 23 July.

Our interest in this issue would focus specifically on accountability and governance and in particular the process of appointment.

In our view there are three possible approaches to the appointment of a commissioner:

- appointment by the National Assembly;
- appointment by the Welsh Government;
- appointment proposed by the Welsh Government and endorsed by the National Assembly.

We do not believe that we are in a position to give a considered opinion on what approach should be followed for the appointment of the Children's

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Commissioner for Wales; in any event, we would not wish to do so without consulting more widely with stakeholders and also considering the position in respect of other commissioners in Wales. In addition, of course, any changes to the existing arrangements would require legislation.

In the event that we decide to look at the issue of commissioner appointments in the future, we will ensure that the Children's Commissioner is consulted as part of any work we undertake.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Melding". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

David Melding AM
Chair