



Ein cyf/Our ref: MA-L/ARD/0088/17

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Children, Young People and Education Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
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Dear Lynne,

During the Committee's evidence session on the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Bill, which I attended on 12 January, I undertook to provide the Committee with a copy of the latest working draft of the Additional Learning Needs Code to inform your scrutiny of the Bill. Bilingual versions are enclosed.

I am also providing our Statement of Policy Intent regarding the subordinate legislation provided for in the Bill. Again, bilingual documents are enclosed.

Following the consultation on the draft Bill in 2015, we have worked extensively on the draft Code. A code content development group of experts and practitioners, which included key delivery partners and third sector representatives, put significant effort into this latest draft. Much of the revised content has been provided directly by those that will be required to operate the new system.

The current draft, however, is very much a work in progress and my officials will continue to work with partners to develop the content. The current provisions will be supplemented and supported in areas both by greater detail and by supporting material, such as further examples of good practice. Particular areas of the Code that will inevitably evolve are those relating to sections of the Bill containing a regulation making power, as highlighted throughout the draft in italic text.

It is also the case that changes might be required as a result of amendments made to the Bill as it progresses through the Assembly. My officials will continue to monitor this.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

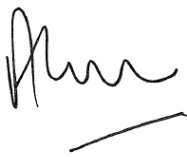
On this basis, whilst I recognise how important the Code is to understanding the practical operation of the new system, I would like to stress that I am making available this working draft solely for illustrative purposes to support your scrutiny of the Bill. This draft of the Code is not in itself subject to scrutiny.

A version of the Code will be subject to a full public consultation (pursuant to section 5 of the Bill), assuming the Bill receives Royal Assent. That draft would capture any necessary changes arising from amendments to the Bill during its passage, feedback we receive during the intervening period and our ongoing development work with practitioners. Following consultation and any consequent changes, a draft of the Code would be laid before the Assembly as per the arrangements for making the Code contained within section 5 of the Bill.

I hope you find these documents helpful and look forward to my next appearance before the Committee.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee, given that Committee's likely interest in both the draft Code and Statement of Policy Intent and my forthcoming appearance before the Committee to discuss the Bill.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alun', with a horizontal line underneath.

**Alun Davies AC/AM**

Gweinidog y Gymraeg a Dysgu Gydol Oes  
Minister for Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language