

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi  
Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-597  
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/05073/14

William Powell AM  
Chair Petitions Committee  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

2 October 2014

Dear William

Thank you for your letter concerning a petition from Catherine Patricia Jones regarding young people's participation and Funky Dragon.

I can assure you the Welsh Government's commitment to children and young people's participation has not changed. We continue to fund a national model to enable the voices of children and young people to be heard. This model, led by Children in Wales and funded through the Children and Families Delivery Grant, takes into account the development around youth engagement launched by the National Assembly for Wales and legislation such as the Children and Families (Wales) Measure and the Rights of Children and Young People's (Wales) Measure. Children in Wales will be working in partnership with Tros Gynnal Plan and Voices from Care and are also supported by Barnardos Cymru, Action for Children, ProMo Cymru and Youth Friendly.

I am confident the decisions and processes around the Children and Families Delivery Grant were robust and balanced. I understand disappointment felt by some people that Funky Dragon were not successful in their bid, however, would like to make clear there has not been a withdrawal of funding in relation to participation. There was an open and fair process which has enabled Third Sector providers to come together to bid for priority areas which contribute to tackling poverty, one of which includes systemic opportunities for children and young people to participate in decisions affecting them and have their voices heard.

In my new Ministerial role, I will be encouraging children and young people and my fellow Ministers to engage with Children in Wales' national participation model. I will be meeting the Presiding Officer in October to discuss how our respective approaches will compliment each other and ensure children and young people in Wales are represented on a national platform.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

*Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)*

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I hope by being clear about our intentions, the Committee is reassured the participation of children and young people will continue to be key in the development and delivery of our policies and services. It is our full intention to continue to ensure children and young people have an active voice in the workings of this Government.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Lesley Griffiths AC / AM**

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Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty