
Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

Pwyllgor Cydraddoldeb a Chyfiawnder Cymdeithasol | Equality and Social Justice Committee

Bil Iaith Arwyddion Prydain (Cymru) | British Sign Language (Wales) Bill

Ymateb gan Aled Thomas | Response from Aled Thomas

What are your views on the general principles of the Bill?

I support the general principles of the Bill. The legislation in the area of Sign Language needs to be strengthened.

What are your views on the general principles of the Bill and the need for legislation to deliver the stated policy intention?

The Bill would enable this support to be unconditionally available, on a statutory basis.

What are your views on the key provisions of the Bill (set out below)? In particular, are they workable, and will they deliver the stated policy intention?

1 - A duty on Welsh Ministers to promote and facilitate the use of BSL

It is a duty on Welsh Ministers to strengthen the statutory support in order to be able to promote and facilitate the use of British Sign Language.

2 - A duty on Welsh Ministers to publish guidance

The publication of guidance at government level will make a big difference to the lives of people who use British Sign Language on a daily basis.

3 - A duty on Welsh Ministers to publish BSL guidance

As above

4 - A duty on specified public bodies to publish BSL plans

I agree

5 - The appointment of a BSL adviser

I agree

6 - Reporting duties to be imposed on the public bodies and Welsh Ministers in relation to these duties

I agree

How appropriate are the powers in the Bill for Welsh Ministers to make subordinate legislation?

It is appropriate for Welsh Ministers to be able to make subordinate legislation.

Are there any barriers to the implementation of the Bill's provisions and does the Bill take account of them?

There are no obvious barriers.

What are your views on the assessment of the financial implications of the Bill as set out in Part 2 of the Explanatory Memorandum?

It doesn't matter about the financial cost. The people need this legislation and that is a cost worth paying.

Are there any other issues that you would like to raise about the Bill and the accompanying Explanatory Memorandum?

No

Anything else?

No
