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**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru**  
Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg

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**National Assembly for Wales**  
Children, Young People and Education Committee

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**Professor Sally Holland**  
Children's Commissioner for Wales

26 November 2018

Dear Sally,

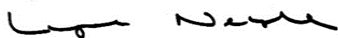
**Annual report scrutiny: elective home education**

Thank you for attending the Children, Young People and Education Committee's meeting on 22 November to discuss your Annual Report and Accounts 2017-18. Further to **your recent correspondence with the First Minister** (dated 9 November), and the **Cabinet Secretary for Education's response** (dated 21 November), elective home education was a key area of our discussions.

During the meeting you explained that you had not yet had an opportunity to fully analyse the Cabinet Secretary for Education's letter of 21 November. You agreed to share your analysis with the Committee once available. Given the time already taken to make progress in this area, and your acknowledgement that current plans to introduce statutory guidance by 2020 is a long time to wait considering the tragic death of Dylan Seabridge in 2011, we would request that your analysis is completed and shared with us as a matter of urgency.

We are deeply concerned about the time taken to reach this point and your description of the process feeling like a "war of attrition" with the Welsh Government. By waiting until 22 November to hold our scrutiny session of your Annual Report, we – like you – had hoped to be in a better and clearer position with regards to arrangements for ensuring that children educated at home are seen and spoken to about the education they are receiving, and that they are happy, healthy and safe. It is a source of significant frustration and concern to us that this is not the case.

Yours sincerely,



**Lynne Neagle AM**  
Chair



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