



CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA
DINAS A SIR ABERTAWE

Councillor Fiona Gordon
Convener Schools Performance
Scrutiny Panel

Please ask for:
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CR/JW

19 June 2015

If you require this or any other information in another format e.g. Braille, audio tape or a different language, please contact me

Dear Councillor Gordon

I write in response to your letter dated 1 June 2015 regarding elective home education.

With reference to the working group to consider what information can be shared with colleagues in Social Services and Education, I can confirm that a meeting has taken place. It will, however, be necessary to undertake further work to pursue developing a protocol and so a further meeting is being planned for mid-July.

Welsh Government legislation does not allow local authorities to challenge parents who choose to home educate their children. However, it is hoped to draw up a protocol agreement to ensure that Family and Children Services, the Education Department and school staff can work more closely together, within the confines of the legislation, to improve the support for children being home educated. When the Swansea model has been drafted, it is intended to share the protocol with other local authorities in the ERW Region through the ERW Safeguarding Group.

The Welsh Government is currently consulting on the draft non-statutory guidance for local authorities on elective home education and it is intended that the working group will meet when feedback on this consultation document is available. The consultation ends on 3 July 2015.

COUNCILLOR/Y CYNGHORYDD
CHRISTINE RICHARDS
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Page 2

I trust this reply will help to reassure you that this work is on-going. It is not considered appropriate to continue further until the Welsh Government consultation process has ended.

Yours sincerely

Christine Richards

**COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE RICHARDS
DEPUTY LEADER & CABINET MEMBER
FOR SERVICES FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE**

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