



To: Children's Services Stakeholders

12 January 2024

Dear All

National Practice Framework Engagement Paper

You will be aware that Welsh Government is currently delivering a Transformation Programme for Children's Social Services in Wales. The Programme builds on commitments we made in our Programme for Government. The Programme will effect change across the whole system in Wales and aligns to the aims and objectives in our [Children and Young People's Plan](#).

Central to the delivery of the Transformation Programme is the development of a National Practice Framework (the Framework). The aim of the Framework will be to translate policy into practice, improve practice, drive consistency and deliver the first set of national standards for children's services in Wales, sitting alongside other All-Wales procedures like the All-Wales safeguarding procedures.

There has been comprehensive discussion and work with our partners to review, strengthen and improve service delivery. I am pleased to share with you the attached engagement paper which sets out what the Framework aims to achieve and how it will work in practice as well as drafts of the first six standards:

- The Child-inclusive practice standard;
- The Trusted Adults standard;
- Eyes on the child: the Child Safeguarding standard;
- The Missing children and young people standard;
- The Continuing Care standard;
- The Manageable workloads standard.

These draft standards reflect a multi-agency approach, as we recognise children who need help and protection often need the support of a number of professionals who work together as a team. The standards will better describe how services for children work, driving greater transparency.

Co-production of the standards has been key, and we intend to continue with this engagement over the next year with further draft standards being shared as part of an ongoing engagement process.

The attached paper seeks feedback about our proposed direction of travel. It asks five "open" questions about the Framework and its application.

Julie Morgan AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Deputy Minister for Social Services



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Welsh Government

A list of stakeholders who will be included in this part of the engagement process is also attached. It reflects the multi-agency approach referred to above and covers a range of organisations who are involved with care experienced young people.

I would be grateful if responses to the questions asked in the engagement paper could be sent to the following Welsh Government mail box by Friday 8 March.

NPF@gov.wales

or

FframwaithYmarferCenedlaethol@llyw.cymru

We would like to further support the engagement process by holding remote meetings or workshops, webinars on specific issues and some face-to-face fieldwork over the next twelve months. If you would like to be part of this work, do let us know by using the mailbox above. You may wish to help shape a specific standard or a small group of standards rather than all of them. We would welcome concentrated input on specific standards.

Your continued support and involvement is appreciated and of great importance if we are to deliver our commitments to transform children's services during this Senedd term. I therefore hope you will send through your comments on the engagement paper and first draft standards so we can ensure that the Framework supports our vision for children's services in Wales.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Morgan'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Julie Morgan AS/MS
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Deputy Minister for Social Services

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