

William Powell AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

Your ref: P-04-597  
Our ref: PO1013/RB/NG

21 May 2015

*Dear William*

Thank you for your letter received on 7 May regarding the Petitions Committee's ongoing consideration of Catherine Patricia Jones' petition. In your letter you ask about any further developments in relation to the issues raised in the petition.

Since July 2014, when the Assembly's party leaders and I signed our youth charter, Assembly committees have engaged 10,000 young people in their work, over 4,000 have responded to our votes@16 conversation and we have engaged with over 16,000 children and young people through our education and youth programme programme.

A number of improvements have been embedded into our education and youth engagement programmes. Young people explicitly told us that we should not make assumptions about the issues they want to get involved with and the breadth of issues and volume of responses committees have gathered over the past six months clearly back this up.

These improvements and their impact were presented to the Youth Engagement Advisory Group at the end of April – members include representatives from the Children's Commissioner's Office, Youth Cymru, the Funky Dragon trustees, the Urdd, Welsh Centre for International Affairs, Children in Wales, Scouts Wales, Girl Guiding Cymru and NUS Wales.

**Croesewir gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg/We welcome correspondence in both English and Welsh**

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Llywydd  
Presiding Officer



Established in July 2013 the group's remit is to advise and inform the development of the Assembly's new youth engagement strategy. The focus of our most recent meeting was the successful implementation of the Assembly's youth engagement programme and sharing information about any other relevant developments within the children and young people's sector since our last meeting.

In addition to this activity, we will announce the results of our Votes@16 consultation on 15 July which will be of keen interest to the committee. I will ensure that my officials keep you notified of any other relevant developments.

I hope that the above information highlights to you the progress we are making in our efforts to engage with young people in the Assembly's work.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rosemary".

**Dame Rosemary Butler AM**  
**Presiding Officer**