



**ALLIANCE**  
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE  
ALLIANCE SCOTLAND  
people at the centre

To the Deputy First Minister,

I am writing to you to provide you with information about the work of the Getting It Right For Every Child Practice Development Panel ('the Panel') and to seek your agreement to revise the timeline within the Panel's Terms of Reference.

#### *Update on the work of the Panel*

Since February 2018, the Panel and Legal Advisory Group have met on a number of occasions and work on an authoritative draft Code of Practice is progressing well.

Key issues which the Panel have considered include:

- Who is the Code of Practice for
- How the Code of Practice can provide clarity and safeguards in relation to information sharing
- How the language of the Code of Practice can be made as accessible as possible

The Panel have also had useful discussions regarding support for current Getting It Right For Every Child, including provision of named person services, and the Statutory Guidance and wider support materials that will be required to support implementation of Parts 4 and 5 of the Children and Young People Act 2014. The Panel are of the view that these must be made to work for front line staff and parents, children and young people themselves.

#### *Terms of Reference*

As you know, I want to ensure wide and meaningful engagement with the work of the Panel which is an ambition we both share. It is my intention that the Panel will shortly launch an 8 week consultation and engagement process.

The Panel have discussed timescales for this engagement, considering the Terms of Reference to report to you in September 2018, and the likely impact of the summer holidays, particularly within the education sector. The Panel have concluded that additional time will be required to allow for the meaningful engagement we want and to allow for due consideration to be given the views shared before returning to you with an authoritative draft Code of Practice and wider recommendations. As such, I am writing to you to ask that the Terms of Reference may be revised to allow the Panel to report to you later in the Autumn.

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### *Scope of the Panel's proposed stakeholder engagement*

It is my intention that the consultation and engagement process should be an open conversation on the Panel's proposed authoritative draft Code of Practice and on wider matters relating to the implementation of Getting It Right For Every Child policy to inform the recommendations that the Panel will make to you.

At this stage, the Panel are of the view that it would be helpful for the Scottish Government to publish a refreshed policy statement on Getting It Right For Every Child to support current practice ahead of the implementation of Parts 4 and 5 of the 2014 Act. The consultation and engagement process will be an opportunity to discuss this also. The Panel is working closely with colleagues on the National Implementation Support Group (NISG) who are key drivers of the implementation of the wider Getting It Right For Every Child policy and any responses and feedback provided on this will be shared with them to support their work.

It is also my intention to seek views through the consultation and engagement process on the financial resources, including training and development needs associated with implementation of Parts 4 and 5 of the 2014 Act.

Finally, I want to ensure that the Panel hear views on the sort of information and communication which parents and children and young people want now and ahead of implementation.

I will provide further information on our stakeholder engagement plan and timescales once the Panel have reached a final decision.

### *Next steps*

Your officials are providing support to the Panel in developing a full stakeholder engagement plan. It is my intention to write to a wide range of stakeholders shortly about this. In order to allow me to do this it would be helpful to receive your view on the matter of revising the timescale within the Terms of Reference in early course.

Yours Sincerely



Professor Ian Welsh, OBE  
Chair of the Getting It Right For Every Child Practice Development Panel