Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref [redacted]

[redacted]

02 November 2026

Dear Ms Wright,

Thank you for your correspondence to the Deputy Minister for Social Care, Mental Health, and Women's Health on 08 October 2026 in relation to your Speak for Them campaign and the proposals to One Record and the Unshaken Standard. The Deputy Minister has asked the Safeguarding and Advocacy Team to respond.

Firstly, we would like to acknowledge the experiences which have informed your campaign and the commitment you have shown to highlighting and improving safeguarding arrangements for children across the United Kingdom. The Welsh Government recognises the importance of ensuring that children are protected effectively, particularly where families have moved across organisational, regional, or national boundaries.

The Welsh Government is committed to strengthening safeguarding arrangements across Wales through the Stronger Safeguarding for a Safer Wales programme. A key focus of this work is improving collaboration, information sharing, and accountability across agencies to support earlier identification of risk and increasing effectiveness of response to children and adults who may be experiencing harm.

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the Wales Safeguarding Procedures place clear expectations on agencies to work on a multi-agency basis and share relevant information where this is necessary to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. We recognise the importance of information flowing effectively when children and families move between local authorities and across borders within the UK.

Welsh Government officials engage on a regular basis with safeguarding partners, health, policing, and the UK government on a range of safeguarding matters and the benefits are recognised about strong information sharing where there are risks to children.

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

[Address]

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre 0300 0604400

The Welsh Government recognises the importance of ensuring that individuals who pose a risk to children and vulnerable people are identified effectively and that safeguarding agencies have access to the relevant information to support public protection.

The proposals you refer to, regarding the implementation of Della's Law and the linking of offender's identities across policing, courts, Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS,) passports, and driving license records relate primarily to areas of responsibility which are reserved to the UK Government, including criminal justice, policing, immigration, and DBS arrangements.

While the Welsh Government is unable to determine policy in these areas, we support effective information sharing and robust safeguarding arrangements which help protect children and vulnerable people from harm. We will continue to engage with UK Government departments and relevant partners on matters which impact safeguarding in Wales.

We welcome your proposal on the prevention of abusive head trauma in infants and the importance of supporting parents and carers to manage the challenges associated with persistent crying. We have recognised the importance of addressing persistent crying in babies and have implemented various initiatives to support parents. The ICON programme has as you have highlighted been launched in North Wales. Across Wales there is already a strong focus on providing parents and carers with information and support to promote infant well being and reduce the risk of harm. Health boards, maternity services, and health visiting services play a key role in delivering this support, and we are aware of the work undertaken by organisations across Wales, including adoption and fostering services, to prepare and support carers.

We have noted your proposals including enhanced preparation and support for adopters, foster carers, kinship carers, birth parents and particularly fathers regarding the development of practical coping plans being in place. The Welsh Government agrees that providing parents and carers with appropriate support, information, and opportunities to seek help at time of stress is an important part of preventing harm and promoting positive outcomes for babies and young children.

Thank you for taking the time to write and for sharing your proposals. Welsh Government recognise and appreciate the commitment of Speak for Them to improving outcomes for children and strengthening safeguarding arrangements across the United Kingdom.

The Welsh Government remains committed to ensuring children are protected from harm and to strengthen safeguarding the arrangements which are in place and being developed.

We hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Y Tîm Diogelu ac Eiriolaeth / The Safeguarding and Advocacy Team