



Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Dear

**Re: Children's Legal Centre for Wales Involvement**

**The Children's Legal Centre ('the CLC') will be a Wales-wide, bilingual service providing information and access to legal advice and representation for children and young people, contributing anonymised data and insights derived from service provision to a bank of research evidence, and advocating for reform in law, policy and practice.**

The objectives of the CLC are to

- Provide accessible information, advice and representation,
- Promotion of reform in law, policy and practice,
- Promote children's rights and participation,
- Provide education, training and consultancy,
- Complement existing services provided by voluntary, community, statutory and legal sectors,
- Work in partnership with children, parents, carers and other agencies.

The CLC is an initiative of the Wales Observatory on Human Rights of Children and Young People which is based at both Swansea and Bangor Universities and engages extensively with stakeholders in local and national government, the National Assembly for Wales, the legal professions, professional bodies, judiciary, third sector organisations, public bodies, schools and youth organisations in Wales.

The CLC will, from August 2017, begin to offer representation, education, information and consultation with regard to the law in Wales as it affects children and young people via digital and face-to-face mechanisms. With no current comparable provision in Wales, the CLC will complement and work in partnership with services provided by voluntary, community, statutory and private sectors and will support children and young people to exercise agency in decisions and processes affecting them, securing outcomes which protect, respect and fulfil their human rights.

In anticipation of the CLC launch in 2017, significant preparatory work is taking place to ensure the provision fits the needs of all stakeholders, especially children and young people. This includes linking with Law Centres that specialize in advice for children and young people, learning from different models of university law clinics in other parts of the UK, the USA and elsewhere in the world, extensive research into Public Legal Education in Wales with particular reference to children and young people, financial and business planning. In all our work we take account of post-devolution law and policy in Wales, including the unique 'due regard' laws on children's rights, effective implementation of which is a priority running through the Observatory's activities.



## Want to get involved?

The Children's Legal Centre is seeking dedicated and enthusiastic legal professionals to volunteer as part of the 'CLC Lawyers Network' in Swansea University College of Law and Criminology and Bangor University Law School. The Network's inaugural meeting will be held at 4.30pm – 5.30pm on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at Swansea University prior to the Wales Observatory on Human Rights of Children and Young People Lecture. Please see details below.

<p>Arsyllfa Cymru ar Hawliau Dynol Plant a Phobl Ifanc</p> <p><b>Hysbysiad Darlith</b></p> <p><b>Dydd Iau 17<sup>eg</sup> Tachwedd 2016</b> Prifysgol Abertawe, Darlithfa Richard Price yn dechrau am 6.30 pm</p> <p><b>Siaradwr: Bydd Yr Arglwydd Kerr,</b> Ustus Goruchaf Lys y Deyrnas Unedig yn cynnal sgwrs am:</p> <p>“Amddiffyn plant, gorfodi eu hawliau”.</p> <p><b>Mae'r ddarlith hon am ddim ac ar agor i'r cyhoedd</b></p>	<p>Wales Observatory on Human Rights of Children and Young People</p> <p><b>Notice of Lecture</b></p> <p><b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2016</b> Swansea University, Richard Price Lecture Theatre Commencing at 6.30 pm</p> <p><b>Speaker: Lord Kerr, Justice of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom</b> Will give a talk on:</p> <p>“Protecting children, enforcing their rights”.</p> <p><b>This lecture is free of charge and open to the public</b></p>
--	--

The meeting will be a fantastic opportunity to obtain a unique insight into the progress of the CLC to date and engage in the development of terms of reference for the Network; to consider a variety of methods of support for the functionality of the CLC; to share information and to learn how you can take part in our 'Children and the Law in Wales' Lecture Series taking place in 2017.

If you have any questions, are interested in attending the inaugural Network meeting or supporting the work through a charitable donation please don't hesitate to get in touch. In the mean-time please follow us on Twitter @ChildLegalWales and watch out for e-updates starting later in the autumn.

Best Wishes,

Hannah Bussicott  
Business Development Manager  
[h.j.bussicott@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:h.j.bussicott@swansea.ac.uk) 01792-295399