

17 April 2019

Dear

### **Request for information**

Thank you for your letters of 7 and 10 April sent to Mr Meilyr Rowlands, and forwarded to me in my capacity as Freedom of Information officer.

We note your concerns in relation to the Welsh for Adults service. In relation to Freedom of Information, I note the following requests that you have made:

- 1 Confirmation under the Freedom of Information Act that the new Estyn inspection criteria, as it applies to the Welsh for Adults Service, requires that their tutoring must relate to proven practices, that they are not entitled to make methods or misrepresent learning issues and must conform to acceptable standards of tutoring practice and behaviour that is commensurate with a service inspected by Estyn and Estyn's quality assurance brand
- 2 Explanation under the Freedom of Information Act that, where Welsh for Adults services are provided in universities, whether it will be inspected by registered inspectors in future, who will be professionally accountable for their inspections, where they are legally required to adopt high standards of practice for learners of all learning potential

When dealing with requests for information made under the FOIA, Estyn's obligations include:

- a) confirming or denying whether it holds information of the description specified in the request; and
- b) communicating the information requested to the applicant.

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Estyn, Llys Angor/Anchor Court, Heol Keen/Keen Road, Caerdydd/Cardiff, CF24 5JW  
Ffôn/Telephone 02920 446446

ymholiadau@estyn.llyw.cymru • enquiries@estyn.gov.wales  
www.estyn.llyw.cymru • www.estyn.gov.wales

Mae Estyn yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Bydd gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn y naill iaith neu'r llall yn cael yr un flaenoriaeth. | Estyn welcomes correspondence in both English and Welsh. Correspondence received in either language will be given equal priority.

In response to your first question, I can confirm that Estyn's inspection criteria for the inspection of Welsh for Adults, is available on our website. I have printed out a copy and enclose with this letter for information. Estyn does not inspect with any view regarding the validity of any particular methodology, but does always consider the impact of any chosen teaching approaches on the progress learners make in each setting.

In relation to your second question, I can confirm that Welsh for Adults courses are now delivered by a network of providers on behalf of the National Centre for Learning Welsh. There are Higher Education providers as part of this network. Estyn inspects the Welsh for Adults provision in each of the individual providers as well as the work of the National Centre for Learning Welsh. All our inspections of Welsh for Adults provision are led by Her Majesty's Inspectors (HMI) of education and training.

If you are not satisfied with the decision Estyn has taken regarding your request for information, you are entitled to request that we review the matter. Your request for a review should be addressed to the Feedback and Complaints Manager, and received no later than 20 working days after the date of this communication.

If you are still not satisfied, you also have a right to complain to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House, Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Tel: 01625 545 745  
Fax: 01624 524510  
Email: [enquiries@ico.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ico.gsi.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

**Robert Gairey**  
Freedom of Information Officer