

Carl Sargeant AC/AM

**Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth
Leol**

Minister for Social Justice and Local Government



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref yourref
Ein cyf/Our ref ourref

Janice Gregory AM
Chair, Communities and
Culture Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

11 January 2010

Dear Janice,

I am responding to your request for information in relation to the devolution of Youth Justice Services. The Welsh Ministers continue to consider this issue, including the commissioning of work by Professor Rod Morgan on devolving responsibility for the Youth Justice System to the Welsh Assembly Government. That work is due to be completed by the end of the year, and Cabinet will consider Professor Morgan's findings in 2010. We will also take careful account of Sir Emyr Jones Parry's report.

Any decision to seek devolution of responsibility for the CJS would have significant financial and legislative implications, and it is therefore essential that we fully consider all the issues, before seeking any framework powers. In the meantime, we continue to exploit opportunities to maximise the Welsh Assembly Government's influence in relation to criminal justice issues, such as through the recently established National Criminal Justice Forum for Wales, which I Chair in my capacity as Minister for Social Justice and Local Government.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl Sargeant".

Carl Sargeant AC/AM

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Minister for Social Justice and Local Government

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