
Ymateb i Ymgynghoriad / Consultation Response

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| Dyddiad / Date: | 29.03.21 |
| Pwnc / Subject: | HMI Prisons : Statutory Consultation on the Draft Inspection Programme 2021-22 and Concomitant Inspection Framework |

Background information about Estyn

Estyn is the Office of Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales. As a Crown body, Estyn is independent of the Welsh Government.

Estyn's principal aim is to raise the standards and quality education and training in Wales. This is primarily set out in the Learning and Skills Act 2000 and the Education Act 2005. In exercising its functions, Estyn must give regard to the:

- Quality of education and training in Wales;
- Extent to which education and training meets the needs of learners;
- Educational standards achieved by education and training providers in Wales;
- Quality of leadership and management of those education and training providers;
- Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of learners; and,
- Contribution made to the well-being of learners.

Estyn's remit includes (but is not exclusive to) nurseries and non-maintained settings, primary schools, secondary schools, independent schools, pupil referrals units, further education, adult community learning, local government education services, work-based learning, and teacher education and training.

Estyn may give advice to the Assembly on any matter connected to education and training in Wales. To achieve excellence for learners, Estyn has set three strategic objectives:

- Provide accountability to service users on the quality and standards of education and training in Wales;
- Inform the development of national policy by the Welsh Government;
- Build capacity for improvement of the education and training system in Wales.

This response is not confidential.

Introduction

Overall, Estyn supports the 2021-2022 draft inspection programme and we will continue to support HM Inspectorate of Prisons in its work within Wales.

Response

Estyn is content that the types of establishment inspected are appropriately represented in the inspection programme. We acknowledge and support the amended methodology, known as scrutiny visits (SVs) during the pandemic, and the transition from SVs to a full inspection methodology during late May or early June.

The proposed structure of the inspection programme from that date is appropriate, assuming a continued reduction of COVID-19 cases. That assumption being the case, we will continue to support HMI Prisons in its work within Wales. During exercises within Wales, our inspection team will agree with HMI Prisons' lead inspectors on an appropriate reporting method that takes account of the arrangements that are in place to deliver education and training within each prison.