



Dr Kathryn Jenkins  
Clerk to the Committee  
Assembly Parliamentary Service  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Station Road, Llantwit Major  
Vale of Glamorgan CF61 1ST  
Tel: 01446 796335  
Fax: 01446 795737  
e-mail:- stilltydps@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Ysgol Gynradd Sant Illtyd  
Heol Y Gorsaf, Llanilitud Fawr  
Bro Morgannwg CF61 1ST  
Ffon: 01446 796335  
Fac: 01446 795737  
e-mail:- stilltydps@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

*"Croeso" 'Work hard, Think hard, Have fun'*  
Mr Alan Smith *Headteacher*

31<sup>st</sup> January 2008

Dear Dr Jenkins

### CALL FOR EVIDENCE

Thank you for your request for our views on funding for Welsh Schools.

- 1a. There is some understanding, however, there is a lack of transparency about how each LEA's budget settlement is reached and how each LEA sets its budget following settlement from WAG.
- 1b. I believe WAG is spending too little money on Welsh schools and the lack of parity between Wales and England means Welsh children are disadvantaged throughout their school life. Ultimately this must be as a result of legislative constraints and funding between British and Welsh Assembly Government.
- 2a. I would like to be able to see comparative data regarding funding up on the website.

This would enable LEA's, schools/governors to make accurate comparisons.

3. I believe there are too many grants, these are prohibitive to schools and to the raising standards initiative currently given such a high priority by WAG.

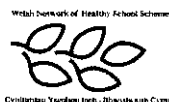
Surely it would be better to increase the size of the overall funds and empower school managers to make effective and meaningful choices about their priorities.

I believe RAISE grants to be ineffective and have little impact in most areas. They also disadvantage many other schools because funding is so light.

There is a lack of transparency across the whole spectrum of additional grants.



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4. The funding issue is irrelevant. The problem is there is too little money available for capital investment and once again there is a lack of transparency.
5. Openness and transparency and equality for all.

Yours sincerely

*Alan Smith*

Alan Smith  
Headteacher