



Ein cyf/Our Ref: LF/MD/0139/15

Directors of Social Services
Chief Executives of Local Authorities

cc: Welsh Local Government Association
Association of Directors of Social Services Cymru
Director of Operations, National Adoption Service
Chair of the Governance Board, National Adoption Service
Chair Elect of the Advisory Group, National Adoption Service
Adoption UK (Wales)
After Adoption
BAAF (Wales)
Barnardo's Cymru
St David's Children Society
Children's Commissioner
Designated Doctor for Looked After Children / Safeguarding,
Public Health Wales
Welsh Medical Group (BAAF) Medical Advisers in Wales
Chief Executives of Health Boards and Trusts
Directors of Education
Association of Directors of Education in Wales
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
CASCADE Children's Social Care Research and
Development Centre

Dear Colleague

12 March 2015

This letter alerts you to the issue of the new Directions for the delivery of the National Adoption Service for Wales.

The Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Joint Adoption Arrangements) (Wales) Directions 2015 have been issued under the Adoption and Children Act 2002, as amended by Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014; and will come into effect on 13 March 2015.

These Directions require local authorities in Wales to enter into specified arrangements with each other in relation to the provision of specified services listed under section 3 (1) of the Adoption and Children Act 2002.

The Directions set out the broad aims of the joint adoption arrangements that underpin the National Adoption Service and require each local authority to collaborate with other authorities in a regional collaborative (configured as per the Schedule to the Directions) and to collaborate with all local authorities in Wales to provide management and oversight of national arrangements including a Governance Board, an Advisory Group, a Director of Operations and funding arrangements. They also set out regional arrangements for matching for adoption.

These Directions may be freely reproduced by all to whom they are addressed and any enquires in relation to the Directions should be made to Elizabeth Lockwood, Head of Placements Branch, Delivering Policy for Children and Adults Division, Department for Health and Social Services, Welsh Government. Telephone 029 20 821695, email elizabeth.lockwood@wales.gsi.gov.uk.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Drakeford". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mark Drakeford AC / AM

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services