

## **Request for Information – reference ATISN 17407**

### **1. Information on which Welsh Government departments, groups, divisions or teams are involved in the development of the above guidance. (The Action Owner only is mentioned in the Action Plan).**

The development of Welsh Government's national transgender guidance for schools and local authorities is being led by the Equity in Education Division of the Education, Social Justice and Welsh Language. This work is supported by a cross departmental internal group working group representing several aspects of Welsh Government policy that may have relevance to this policy area. Oversight is also provided by a cross-divisional Senior Officials Group to ensure coherence with other policy areas.

### **2. Information on which external organisations, public bodies, groups and/or individuals are currently involved in the development of the above guidance.**

The Welsh Government is responsible for the content of the guidance that will be published for consultation. To inform policy development The Welsh Government has established external groups to provide information and to enable the Welsh Government to consider current practice and a range of views in the development of guidance. Alongside this the Welsh Government is also undertaking a wider programme of stakeholder engagement, including participation sessions with young people, and ongoing meetings with a range of individual organisations and network groups and events across Wales.

External groups include local authorities, education practitioners from a range of settings and other stakeholder organisations. Some stakeholder organisations attend with observer status.

Stakeholder organisations include:

- Education unions
- Estyn
- Children's charities and children's sector organisations
- Organisations with expertise in Relationships and Sexuality Education
- Equalities and national human rights organisations
- LGBTQ+ charities
- Organisations in the health sector
- Organisations in the sports sector
- Organisations in the womens and girls equality sector.

### **3. Information on the process of consultation on the draft guidance, including which groups, organisations, bodies and/or individuals have been or are currently engaged in providing advice and commenting on the proposed content and scope of the proposed guidance.**

Formal consultation has not yet begun. External groups have been providing information and views that are considered in the development of guidance. There

has also been a wider process of ongoing meetings with a range of individual organisations and network groups and events, with organisations not included in external groups. There has also been a programme of participation with children and young people. The Welsh Government is responsible for the content of the guidance that will be published for consultation.

**4. Information on the proposed timetable for publication of the draft guidance, any proposed public consultation, and the publication and dissemination of the final guidance.**

The draft guidance will be published for a full 12-week public consultation in the autumn of 2023. The resulting responses will be analysed and revisions made in light of responses received. Finalised guidance will be published in 2024.

**5. Information on Welsh Government's engagement on this issue with the Department for Education in England, which is developing counterpart guidance for English schools, as part of the process of developing the national guidance for Wales.**

Welsh Government officials have met with the Department of Education in England during the development process.