# WRITTEN STATEMENT

# BY

# THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

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| **TITLE**  | **Consultation – Summary of response: Draft Welsh in Education Strategic Plans Regulations (Wales) 2019 and Guidance** |
| **DATE**  | **07 November 2019**  |
| **BY** | **Kirsty Williams AM, Minister for Education**  |

The Welsh Government undertook a consultation on the draft Welsh in Education Strategic Plans Regulations (Wales) 2019 and Guidance between 30 May and 13 September 2019. The document summarising the key themes from the responses received to that consultation and the Welsh Government responses has been published today on the Welsh Government website.

The purpose of the consultation was to seek views on the draft Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (Wales) Regulations 2019 and Guidance. These regulations sets out statutory duties pursuant of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 which require local authorities to produce a Welsh in Education Strategic Plan. It is intended for these Regulations and Guidance to provide a framework for planning Welsh-medium education provision which is consistent with the current and future expectation growth.

In total 72 responses were received to the consultation from a range of organisations and members of the public including local authorities. In addition, four engagement events were held in Ceredigion, Conwy, Newport and Rhondda Cynon Taf. Approximately 100 people attended the engagement events which also included discussions on the promotion of Welsh-medium education and the benefits around bilingualism. Furthermore, a young people’s session was held during the Urdd National Eisteddfod with members of Bwrdd Syr IfanC.

The consultation responses were generally in support of the proposals presented in the consultation document and proposed draft Regulations.

I would like to thank everyone who responded to this consultation and to the members of the Welsh in Education Strategic Advisory Board for their work between May 2018 – March 2019.

It is our intention that we lay the draft Regulations in December 2019.

The *Consultation - Summary response: Draft Welsh in Education Strategic Plans Regulations (Wales) 2019 and Guidance* document can be found at:

[https://gov.wales/draft-welsh-education-strategic-plans-regulations-wales-2019-and-guidance](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fgov.wales%2Fdraft-welsh-education-strategic-plans-regulations-wales-2019-and-guidance&data=02%7C01%7CFfion.Williams004%40gov.wales%7C483a219c424240ad22bb08d7629d6b86%7Ca2cc36c592804ae78887d06dab89216b%7C0%7C0%7C637086300555806217&sdata=%2FaHgzGOEuDXHlWIAngDJF30Kd6Ku0RY1fcXbNDcmSio%3D&reserved=0)