



Mr Meilyr Rowlands
Her Majesty's Chief Inspector
of Education and Training in Wales
Estyn
Anchor Court
Keen Road
Cardiff
CF24 5JW

Please ask for: **Scrutiny**
Scrutiny Office Line: **01792 637256**
e-mail: scrutiny@swansea.gov.uk
Date: **21 November 2016**

Dear Mr Rowlands

Estyn Inspection of Education through Regional Working (ERW)

I am writing to you on behalf of the ERW Scrutiny Councillor Group which is made up of the Chairs and Vice Chairs of six local authorities' Education Scrutiny Committees. We came together in Pembrokeshire on 27 September 2016 for our bi-annual meeting.

Having discussed the outcome of the recent inspection of ERW we are pleased to see that the Partnership has been rated as good and we agreed to follow up on progress with those recommendations that have been made. This is one of the ways that we aim to contribute to the continuing improvement and good governance of ERW and we hope that you will recognise the value of this. We would of course welcome any thoughts you may have on how we can work with Estyn in the future.

We did feel, however, that the inspection did not sufficiently take on board educational outcomes and performance in the ERW region in comparison with other regions. We felt that improving outcomes for pupils in Wales was the key purpose of these regional bodies and that this was an omission that we felt needed to be highlighted.

We would be interested in hearing you views on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Guy Woodham
Chair ERW Scrutiny Councillor Group and
Chair of Schools and Learning Scrutiny Committee, Pembrokeshire Council