

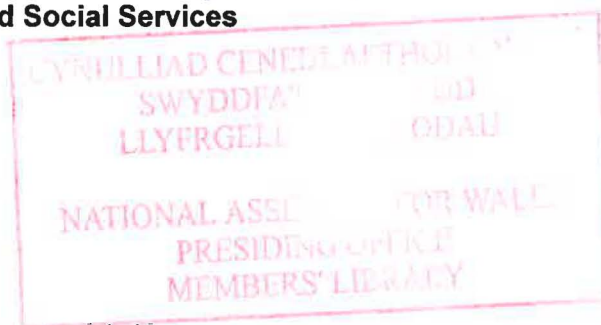
Jane Hutt AM
Minister for Health and Social Services

DP 456/03-07



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA



Kirsty Williams AM
The National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

24th November 2003

Dear Kirsty,

At plenary on 21st October 2003 within the debate on the Approval of the Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2003 and the Registration of Social Care and Independent Health Care (Wales) Regulations 2003 you queried the regulatory interpretation of the standards. This is essentially an issue for CSIW discretion and each application must be considered on its own merits.

The National Minimum Standards clearly state that the manager is supernumerary. However, CSIW guidance to its inspectors provides for the discretion to allow the manager to be "counted in" for the staff to child ratio were the size of the nursery is considered to be such that the manager would actually be available to provide care for children in the setting. It is considered that the larger the nursery, the less likely the manager would have time outside their managerial, record-keeping role to provide hands on care. The arrangements are subject to negotiation and agreement between the CSIW inspector and each nursery setting.

Yours