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Janet Daby MP
Minister for Children and Families

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Jacqui Belfield-Smith MBE
Chair, Association of YOT Managers
By email: jacqui.belfield-smith@stockport.gov.uk

22 August 2024

Dear Ms Belfield-Smith,

Thank you for your correspondence of 2 August, in which you provided details of the work of the Association of YOT Managers (AYM), and outlined proposals based on some of the issues faced by your members. I very much appreciate the work of your organisation. Thank you for your congratulations regarding my appointment to the Department for Education. It is a great honour to serve, and I am keen to deliver on our manifesto commitments and beyond.

Everyone deserves the best start in life. To achieve this, we must break down the barriers to opportunity, as well as ensuring high and rising standards in education, which in my particular case includes children's social care, so that each child and young person knows that happiness and success can belong to them. Opportunity must be for all – and not just for the privileged few.

The ministerial team has already begun work with departmental officials to deliver on our mandate. We will deliver better life chances for all. We have already begun the process of resetting the way the department works in partnership with our workforces – including our excellent children's social care workforce – to ensure there are no limits on the ambitions of the next generation.

Thank you for your correspondence. I am grateful for your invitation to the AYM conference on 16 October. My office is aware of your request, and if I am able to attend, they will be in touch regarding this.

Yours sincerely,

Janet Daby MP
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