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To: Jay McCabe, Principal Officer Bays Plus and Youth Justice Service

30th April 2021

Dear Jay

As you will be aware, as part of the Youth Justice Board's statutory responsibility to oversee the operation of the Youth Justice System, the YJB has been engaging with Swansea's Youth Justice Service as a priority YOT since January 2018. This was as a result of the HM Inspectorate of Probation inspection in the previous year. At the time Swansea was part of Western Bay YOT, which was rated inadequate. Swansea has since become a service in its own right, following the disaggregation of Western Bay, and continued to address the performance issues raised in the inspection.

Since then we have seen evidence of practice improvement from a variety of sources: data presented, discussion with managers and staff, effective leadership, and in addressing staffing and performance concerns. We have progressively reduced our formal involvement and frequency of meeting to review progress against the post-inspection action plan. Whilst it is acknowledged that some challenges remain, at our internal Performance Oversight Board (POB) a review of the progress made by Bridgend and YJB engagement to date was undertaken, as a result the Board agreed that Swansea would be more appropriately supported as a stage one priority YOT.

This change is in recognition of the progress that has been made, the commitment to performance improvement, the changes we have seen as a result and the establishment of a management board to support the process. The YJB are reducing their formal engagement with Swansea due to the assurances we have received from the progress made to date and your continued commitment to your improvement journey.

Mark Cox will continue to liaise with you and agree the timing and frequency of any formal support, be available for ad hoc advice and assistance and continue to attend your management board. The YJB would like to thank and commend you, your leadership team and staff for meeting the challenges you faced post-inspection, the progress you have made and the way in which you have approached your improvement journey and focused on the needs of the children, families and the communities you serve.

Yours Sincerely,

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