

Senedd Committee Chairs

18 February 2022

Findings of our 6th Senedd priorities engagement with children and young people

Dear Committee Chairs,

As part of the consultation that we carried out to inform our priorities for the 6th Senedd, the Senedd's citizen engagement team undertook a series of engagement activities with children and young people on our behalf. The purpose of that engagement was to find out more about what matters most to children and young people.

The citizen engagement team heard directly from 127 children across seven sessions. They engaged with children and young people across Wales, in a diverse range of locations and settings. They targeted children that we as a Committee find difficult to reach, such as children under 12 and children from low income families. The team reported their findings back to us during our meeting on 27 January.

I and my fellow Committee members were struck by the clarity with which the children and young people communicated their concerns and priorities. Clear themes emerged from the engagement work, with nuances that reflect the diversity of the children who contributed and their different experiences of the world around them. They spoke about deforestation, littering, social isolation, mental health, poverty, hospital waiting times, infrastructure, diversity, social media and much more. They shared their views - and their visions for a better Wales - clearly and articulately.

After considering the report, we felt strongly that we should share it with you. Everything that the children and young people raised with us is directly relevant to at least one other Senedd Committee. Much of it is relevant to various Committees, and some of it should resonate with us all.

I have therefore attached the citizen engagement team's report to this letter. I hope that you are able to find the time to consider it and incorporate its findings into your work.

I appreciate that there is so much work for Senedd committees to do, and it can seem as if there is never enough time to do it all. The Children, Young People and Education Committee therefore warmly welcomes any opportunities for joint working where it is in our mutual interests – or more importantly, in the mutual interests of children and young people in Wales - to do so.

Yours,



Jayne Bryant MS

Chair of the Children, Young People and Education Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Attached report:

Citizen Engagement Report: Young People's Priorities for the Committee in the 6th Senedd - Children, Young People and Education Committee, January 2022