

## CYPE(6)-18-23- Paper to note 7

### Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg

### Children, Young People and Education Committee

Elinor Puzey  
NSPCC

06 June 2023

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## The relationship between poverty and children's social care involvement in Wales

Dear Elinor,

I am writing in response to your letter to the Chair of the Equality and Social Justice Committee proposing that the Committee undertake an inquiry into the relationship between poverty and children's social care involvement in Wales. As you know, the Chair of the Equality and Social Justice Committee copied us into her response to you dated 13 April 2023.

I would like to bring to your attention our [report into services for care experienced children and young people](#), which we published on 24 May. The report considers in some detail the parental risk factors that make it more likely that a child will be taken into care – poverty amongst them. See page 60 onwards. You may find the rest of the 'Before care' chapter of interest given the strong relationship between poverty and rates of children in care.

Our scrutiny of the Welsh Government's Draft Budget this year was framed around the cost of living crisis. This work is less directly relevant to the relationship between poverty and the involvement of children's social care, but you may find our findings interesting nevertheless. We consider safeguarding and care experienced children from page 54, and child poverty on pages 60-64 of our [report](#). Our 19<sup>th</sup> recommendation relates to a child poverty action plan:

*"The Welsh Government must produce, within 6 months, the development of an action plan to eradicate child poverty in Wales. The action plan must set out clear, costed, deliverable, measurable and time-bound actions that are within the gift of the Welsh Government to take to eradicate child poverty in Wales."*

I hope you find this information useful. If you would like any further information about our work please don't hesitate to contact our clerks ([SeneddChildren@Senedd.Wales](mailto:SeneddChildren@Senedd.Wales)).

Yours sincerely,

Jayne Bryant

Jayne Bryant MS  
Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

