

Cross-Party Group Annual Report

Cross Party Group Details:

Cross Party Group Title:	Consumer Rights
Group Membership and Office Holders	
Name of Group Chair:	Sioned Williams MS
Names of other Members of the Senedd:	Jane Dodds MS Huw Irranca Davies MS Mark Isherwood MS
Name of Secretary and Organisation:	Alun Evans, Cyngor ar Bopeth Citizens Advice Wales
Names of other external members and organisations represented:	Consumer Council for Water , Advertising Standards Authority, Transport Focus, Consumer Markets, Which?, Trading Standards Wales

Other meetings of the Group since the last AGM

Meeting 1	
Date of meeting:	15/06/22
Attendees:	Luke Young, Rebecca Woolley, Shah Alom Sumon, Simon Harris, David Beer, Jessica Tye, Rhodri Williams, Amy Dutton, Lindsey Kearton, Alun Evans MS in attendance: Sioned Williams MS, Jane Dodds MS, Rhun ap Iorwerth MS
Summary of the issues discussed:	As this was the inaugural meeting of the group SW welcomed the members and outlined the main purpose and the objectives of the group. The objectives included the exploration of how people in Wales can be more confident as consumers of the full range of consumer goods and services that are available and emerging in an ever increasing digital marketplace.

	<p>Sioned Williams was appointed as Chair of the CPG and Citizens Advice Cymru appointed as secretariat.</p> <p>Luke Young from Citizens Advice Cymru gave a presentation on how consumers in Wales are being impacted by the cost of living crisis and general consumer trends.</p> <p>Concerns regarding ethnicity pricing was raised by members. Sioned Williams MS highlighted a recent report that found examples of discriminatory pricing and discrimination on postcodes and that hiding socio-economic discrimination may be a proxy for other forms of discrimination. It was suggested that discriminatory pricing could form a wider stream of work in the future.</p> <p>Jessica Tye shared a brief update on some work ASA were doing including work on Buy Now Pay Later, including updated guidance and ongoing investigations.</p>
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Meeting 2	
Date of meeting:	06 02 23
Attendees:	<p>Luke Young, Tim Mouncer, Sophie Beesley, Maggie Kinsey, Sian Phipps, David Beer, Jessica Tye, Rhodri Williams, Lia Moutselou, Amy Dutton, Lindsey Kearton, Alun Evans</p> <p>MS in attendance: Sioned Williams MS</p>
Summary of the issues discussed:	<p>Which? Gave a presentation on the impact of the cost of living on consumers in Wales. A discussion followed which focused on a need for better engagement by suppliers, governments and regulators to help consumers to better identify and access support and information available to them.</p>

	<p>Luke Young discussed the most recent cost of living dashboard from Citizens Advice Cymru.</p> <p>Rhodri Williams highlighted the work of the Consumer Council for Water around single social tariffs. In terms of next steps, the group agreed to consider a question to Welsh Government on what work is being done to promote social tariffs for consumers.</p>
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Meeting 3	
Date of meeting:	04 07 23
Attendees:	<p>Lia Moutselou, Rhodri Williams, Samantha James, Lauren Kinsey, Tim Mouncer, David Beer, Catherine Drewett, Simon Harris, David Roberts, Nicola Evans, Lucien Wise, Simon Hatch, Alun Evans, Lindsey Kearton, Anwen Jones</p> <p>Members in attendance: Sioned Williams MS, Mark Isherwood MS, Peredur Owen Griffiths MS, Ryland Doyle (on behalf of Mike Hedges MS)</p>
Summary of the issues discussed:	<p>Sioned Williams MS was re-elected following a nomination by Peredur Owen Griffiths MS and Mark Isherwood MS. Citizens Advice Cymru was re-elected as secretariat.</p> <p>Lia Moutselou from Consumer Council for Water gave a presentation on the current challenges facing households. She expressed the need to streamline the eligibility criteria for support across locations and different utilities and end the postcode lottery associated with support. Samantha James referred to the support Dŵr Cymru provides for low</p>

	<p>income households.</p> <p>Lindsey Kearton gave a presentation on the most recent cost of living dashboard by Citizens Advice Cymru.</p>
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Cross-Party Group Annual Financial Statement

Cross Party Group Title:	Consumer Rights
Date:	13/07/23
Name of Chair:	Sioned Williams MS
Name of Secretary and Organisation:	Alun Evans, Cyngor ar Bopeth Citizens Advice Wales

Group's Expenses:	None	£0.00
Cost of all goods:	No goods bought	£0.00
Benefits received by the group of individual members from external bodies:	No benefits received	£0.00
Any financial support or other support:	No financial support was received	£0.00
Data	Description and name of provider	Costs
		£0.00
	Total costs	£0.00