

Julie Morgan AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Deputy Minister for Social Services

Jayne Bryant, MS
Chair
Children, Young People and Education Committee
Welsh Parliament,
Cardiff Bay,
Cardiff
CF99 1SN



13 September 2023

Dear Jayne,

I am pleased to provide Committee with a written response to question 6 within your letter dated 14 July.

The Committee's question was in relation to recommendation 6 on data: *In relation to each point of data not currently routinely collected and published in Wales (as set out on pages 50 to 52 of our report and the WCPP report), a narrative on the Welsh Government's rationale for this not being necessary / possible / helpful to shape policy response in Wales.*

As outlined in our response to recommendation 6, Welsh Government does currently undertake a range of data collections regarding children's social care. In addition to these data collections, which focus on those children receiving care and support, Social Care Wales collects a large amount of data for the social care workforce. They undertake an [annual data collection](#) from all social care employers, which provides data on people working in residential children's services and foster care, as well as social workers who may support children.

In developing policy and strategy, data is invaluable in allowing us to measure outcomes and ensuring that we are making a difference. The Transforming Children's Services Delivery Group will be establishing a sub-group including members with a statistical background to review the data currently collated, the barriers to collating any data and identify gaps in current data collection. The Group will also work to better understand what data is needed and achievable to collect as part of population needs assessments which can be factored into local authority planning including as part of their placement commissioning strategies, preventative strategies and service delivery.

In conclusion, we do agree with Committee that it is important to have robust data which allows us to measure outcomes to help us inform policy and strategy.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie', is placed below the 'Yours sincerely' text.

Julie Morgan AS/MS
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Deputy Minister for Social Services