

Cross Party Group Annual Report 2023

Children and Families

Chair: Jane Dodds MS

Other MS Members:

- Heledd Fychan MS
- Mike Hedges MS
- Mark Isherwood MS
- Sarah Murphy MS
- Sioned Williams MS

Secretary: Louise O'Neill, Children in Wales/Plant yng Nghymru

Other external members:

- Amy Bainton - Barnado's Cymru
- Elinor Crouch-Puzey - NSPCC
- Owen Evans - Children in Wales
- Mike Greenaway - Play Wales
- Suzanne Griffiths - National Adoption Service for Wales
- Tracey Holdsworth - NSPCC Cymru
- Peter Jones - Guide Dogs Cymru
- Viv Laing - NSPCC Cymru
- Sharon Lovell - National Youth Advocacy Services Cymru
- Gethin Matthew-Jones - RCPCH
- Jackie Murphy - Tros Gynnal Plant
- Louise O'Neill - Children in Wales
- Sean O'Neill - Children in Wales
- Patrick Thomas - Children in Wales Trustee
- Bethan Webber - Home-Start Cymru
- Dave Williams - Children in Wales

Minutes of previous meetings

| 06.07.2022 | |
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| Attendees | Rhys Taylor, Staff of Jane Dodds MS Owen Evans, Children in Wales Louise O'Neill, Children in Wales Mark Carter, Barnardo's Cymru Amy Bainton, Barnardo's Cymru Narinder Sidhu, BASW Cymru Izzabella James, Home-Start Cymru Cecile Gwilym, NSPCC Cymru |
| Apologies | Peredur Owen Griffiths, MS Sharon Lovell, NYAS Cymru Llyr Gruffydd, MS Peter Jones, Guide Dogs Cymru |

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| | Sean O'Neill, Children in Wales Andrea Gordon, Guide Dogs Cymru Dave Williams, Chair, Children in Wales Mike Greenaway, Play Wales |
| Summary | Discussion – edge of care and prevention – what works and what more could Welsh Government do? |

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| 09.11.2022 | |
| Attendees | Rhys Taylor, Staff of Jane Dodds MS Owen Evans, Children in Wales Louise O'Neill, Children in Wales Rocio Cifuentes, Children's Commissioner for Wales Eleri Griffiths, Heledd Fychan MS's office Bethan Webber, Home Start Cymru Mike Greenawa, Play Wales Narinder Sidhu, BASW Cymru Mark Carter, Barnardo's Cymru Dave Williams, Aneurin Bevan UHB Viv Laing, NSPCC Cymru Sarah Thomas, The Fostering Network Wales Elizabeth Bryan, The Fostering Network Wales Corienne Strange, National Adoption Service for Wales Suzanne Griffiths, National Adoption Service for Wales Elinor Crouch-Puzey, NSPCC Cymru Rhiannon Beaumont-Walker, TGP Cymru Allison Hulmes, BASW Cymru Amy Bainton, Barnardo's Cymru |
| Apologies | Peredur Owen Griffiths MS Llyr Gruffydd MS Delyth Jewell MS Sharon Lovell, NYAS Gethin Matthews-Jones, RCPCH Andrea Gordon, Guide Dogs Cymru |
| Summary | Children's Commissioner for Wales – priorities for the next term and Q&A |

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| 17.01.2023 | |
| Attendees | Rhys Taylor, Staff of Jane Dodds MS Sean O'Neill, Children in Wales Louise O'Neill, Children in Wales Mike Greenaway, Play Wales Amy Bainton, Barnardo's Cymru Ceri Evans, Barnardo's Cymru Liz Bryan (online), The Fostering Network Jade Irwin (online), The Fostering Network Daljit Kaur Morris, NYAS Sharon Lovell, NYAS Cath Lewis, Guide Dogs Cymru Sarah Thomas, The Fostering Network Isabella James (online), Home Start Cymru |
| Apologies | Llyr Gruffydd MS Delyth Jewell MS |

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| | Patrick Thomas, Trustee, Children in Wales |
| Summary | Presentation from Barnardo's Cymru on edge of care services, and from The Fostering Network on the Step up Step Down programme, and from NYAS Cymru on Parent Advocacy. |

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| 24.05.2023 | |
| Attendees | <p>Rhys Taylor Senedd Cymru Julie Morgan MS Senedd Cymru Lynne Neagle MS Senedd Cymru Jenny Rathbone MS Senedd Cymru Heledd Fychan Senedd Cymru Sioned Williams Senedd Cymru Sean O'Neill Children in Wales Louise O'Neill Children in Wales Dr Orion Owen (online) Association of Infant Mental Health Amy McNaughton (online) Public Health Wales Anna Westall (online) Children in Wales Sarah Witcombe-Hayes (online) NSPCC Cymru Becky Saunders What Works for Early Intervention and Children's Social Care David Goodger Early Years Wales Mike Greenaway (online) Play Wales Sue Faulkner Catrin Glyn (online) Carers Trust Debra Eckley (online) Mudiad Meithrin Niamh Salkeld (online) Senedd Research Cath Lewis Guide Dogs Cymru Catrin Glyn (online) Carers Trust Cymru Katie Palmer Cardiff & Vale UHB Katherine Lowther RCPsych in Wales Sian Thomas Senedd Cymru Research Rhian Smith (online) The Fostering Network</p> |
| Apologies | <p>Llyr Gruffydd, MS Peredur Owen Griffiths, MS Jessica Laimann, Wen Wales Julie Wallace, Aneurin Bevan UHB Hannah Williams, Social Care Wales Sharon Lovell, NYAS Cymru Cherrie Bija, Faith in Families Melissa Wood, Barnardo's Cymru Mark Carter, Barnardo's Cymru</p> |
| Summary | Presentations from Jane Barlow & Orion Owen, Uni of Oxford, and Public Health Wales, on practice relating to the First 1,000 days, and an overview of the work of the Early Years Action Group. |

Professional lobbyists, voluntary organisations and charities with whom the Group has met during the preceding year.

The Group has not met with any professional lobbyists during the year. The Group meetings are attended by representatives of several organisations and charities. The details of attendees for each meeting are listed above.

The following organisations were invited to give presentations to the Group:

- Children's Commissioner for Wales
- NSPCC Cymru
- Barnardo's Cymru
- The Fostering Network
- NYAS Cymru
- Public Health Wales
- Children in Wales
- Orion Owen, AIMH UK
- Professor Jane Barlow, AIMH UK

Annual Financial Statement

The group has not incurred any costs, benefits, nor services provided such as hospitality.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jane Dodds". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Jane Dodds MS/AS

Mid and West Wales/Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru