

**Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc
ac Addysg**

**Children, Young People
and Education Committee**

Councillor Jane Mudd
Council Leader, Newport City Council

11 March 2024

Senedd Cymru
Bae Caerdydd, Caerdydd, CF99 1SN
SeneddPlant@senedd.cymru
senedd.cymru/SeneddPlant
0300 200 6565

Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, CF99 1SN
SeneddChildren@senedd.wales
senedd.wales/SeneddChildren
0300 200 6565

The Newport City Council motion to treat care experience as a protected characteristic

Dear Jane,

As you know, the Senedd's Children, Young People and Education Committee carried out a comprehensive [inquiry into services for care experienced children and young people](#). During that inquiry, we heard that amending the Equality Act 2010 to include experience of care as a protected characteristic would be an effective way to reduce the stigma and discrimination that many care experience people face. Our [report](#) recommended that the Welsh Government should lobby the UK Government to amend section 4 the Equality Act 2010 to add 'care experience' as a protected characteristic.

In light of this, the Committee is very interested in the recent decision by Newport City Council to make care experience a protected characteristic with the aim of designing policies and services to reflect the specific circumstances they face.¹

To help us better understand what the Council motion will mean for care experienced children and young people, we would appreciate any information you are able to provide us about:

- how, and when, the motion approved by the Council will be implemented;
- the amended equality impact assessment process;
- the ways by which the Council engages with care experienced people to inform its decision making;

¹ Newport City Council, ['Agenda, Council - Tuesday, 23rd January, 2024 5.00 pm'](#)

- whether you believe that other councils across Wales will follow Newport City Council's lead by taking steps to give care experienced people greater recognition when designing policies and services; and
- anything else you believe it would be useful for us to know to understand what the motion means for care experienced children and young people.

This information will be helpful for us as a Committee as we continue to press for the truly radical reform that care experienced children and young people deserve.

I would be grateful for your response no later than 30 April so that we can consider it as part of our ongoing work in this area.

Yours sincerely,



Jayne Bryant MS
Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English