

Lesley Griffiths

Cabinet Secretary for Culture and Social Justice

26 April 2024

Dear Lesley,

Ministerial scrutiny session with the Equality and Social Justice Committee

The Equality and Social Justice Committee would like to invite you to attend a Ministerial scrutiny session at 13:00 on 17 June to discuss your priorities in your new role as Cabinet Secretary for Culture and Social Justice.

While Members are free to ask questions on any topics, we thought it would be helpful to highlight the topics which are of particular interest to the Committee and would welcome a response in writing to some of the questions posed below.

Coordination of cross-cutting issues within the portfolio

- We are keen to know more about your strategy for effectively addressing cross-cutting issues within your portfolio. In particular we would like to understand your plans for collaborating and co-ordinating with other government departments, as well as your approach to championing equality and social justice issues more generally?
- The Cabinet Secretary's vision for promoting equality and social justice through the lens of the arts and culture?
- Where does responsibility for the LGBTQ+ Action Plan and Anti-Racist Wales Action Plan now sit as they appear to be omitted from the list ministerial responsibilities since the reshuffle?

Equality, Race and Disability Evidence Units

- The Cabinet Secretary's view on the effectiveness of the Units as currently constituted, and your vision for their future role and responsibilities?



Fuel poverty and the Warm Homes Programme

- The Cabinet Secretary's priorities for this work and an update on progress in tackling the worst first including the timescales for key milestones of the rollout?

Child poverty

- Whether there will be any change to the approach to tackling child poverty or the Welsh Government's strategy and an update on progress with Professor Rod Hicks' work to create an evaluation framework, including the timescales for completion.

Benefits Charter

- What approach does the Cabinet Secretary plan to take for implementing the Benefits Charter?
- How does the Cabinet Secretary plans to guarantee compliance with the Charter's commitments across all public bodies?

Public Services Ombudsman report on Gypsy and Traveller sites

- What actions does the Cabinet Secretary plan to take in response to the recent **report** by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales, which highlights failures by local authorities in fulfilling their obligations regarding the provision of accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers?
- How does the Cabinet Secretary intend to address the issues raised in the Ombudsman's findings?

Please note that I am sharing this letter with the Chair of the Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and International Relations Committee.

I look forward to working with you in your new role.

Yours sincerely,



Jenny Rathbone

Chair of the Equality and Social Justice Committee

CC: Delyth Jewell, MS, Chair of Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and International Relations Committee