

Simon Pirotte  
Chief Executive  
Medr  
Commission for Tertiary Education and Research

22 October 2024

Dear Simon,

### **Inquiry on Disability and Employment**

The Equality and Social Justice Committee is undertaking an inquiry into disability and employment in Wales. More information about the inquiry and its Terms of Reference can be found on the [Committee's webpages](#).

The Committee has identified a gap in its evidence and would appreciate if you could respond in writing to areas raised during evidence received so far which are highlighted below and consider the inquiry [Terms of Reference](#) in your response.

In its evidence the [Equality and Human Rights Commission](#) raised concerns about the reduction in Welsh Government's targets for apprenticeships and that no targets has been set "for increasing the participation of underrepresented groups including disabled people in apprenticeships". They recommend that the Welsh Government and Medr address the "under-representation of disabled people participating in and completing apprenticeships."

We have heard about the significant barriers faced by disabled people within education including a lack of information, opportunity, flexibility and support. With regard to your recently published Draft Strategic Plan, we noted that none of your five strategic aims directly mention learners with disabilities or those with additional learning needs. The Committee would appreciate further detail on how Medr intend to address the needs of disabled learners and those with additional learning needs.

Your submission should be sent by **Monday 13 November 2024** to [SeneddEquality@Senedd.Wales](mailto:SeneddEquality@Senedd.Wales). Guidance on submitting evidence to the Senedd is included in the Annex.

If you would like to discuss this further with a member of the Clerking Team, you can email  
SeneddEquality@Senedd.Wales

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenny Rathbone". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial 'J'.

Jenny Rathbone MS

Chair of the Equality and Social Justice Committee

Senedd Cymru

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.  
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

## Annex

Information about preparing a written submission to the Senedd.

### Guidance

Submissions should be no longer than five sides of A4, with numbered paragraphs, and should focus on the terms of reference. Please include a brief description of the role of your organisation, as this will be published as evidence.

Please see further detail in the [guidance for those providing evidence for committees](#).

### Bilingual Policy

The Committee welcomes contributions in both or either of our official languages, English and Welsh. Information not submitted bilingually will not be translated and will be published in the language of submission only. We expect organisations to implement their own standards and schemes and to comply with their statutory obligations.

### How we use your information

We will usually publish correspondence or written evidence on our website.