

Cross-Party Group Annual Report.

20th November 2024

Cross Party Group on Children and Young People

1. Group membership and office holders.

Jane Dodd MS – Chair
Sioned Williams - Senedd – Vice Chair
Rachel Beddoe, Children in Wales – Secretariat
Hugh Russell - Children in Wales
Sean O’Neill - Children in Wales
Rachel Beddoe – Children in Wales
Cecile Gwilym - NSPCC
Mike Greenway – Play Wales
Andrea Gordon -Guide Dogs
Daljit Kaur Morris - NYAS
Lisa Roberts – RCPCH
Suzanne Griffiths – National Adoption Service for Wales
Jayne Drummond - Home Start Cymru
Dave Williams -NHS
Amy Bainton - Barnardo’s Cymru
Mark Carter - Barnardo’s Cymru
Narinder Sidhu – BASW
Elizabeth Bryan – Fostering Network Wales
Sarah Thomas – Fostering Network Wales
Rhiannon Beaumont-Walker – TGP Cymru
Oliver John – RCPSYCH
Sarah Durrant – TGP Cymru
Cath Lewis – Guide Dogs
Sian Thomas – Assembly Wales
Naomi Stocks – Senedd
Tom Lewis-White - Senedd
Samantha Baron – BASW
Clare Williams - Diabetes
Liz Gregory – Parent Infant Foundation
Becky Saunders – Early Intervention Foundation
Jessica Laimann – Women’s Equality Network Wales
Cherrie Bija – Faith in Families Wales
Katie Palmer – Food Sense Wales
Hannah Williams – Social Care Wales
Cathryn Thomas – Social Care Wales
Catrin Glyn - Carers Trust Wales
Rhian Smith – Foster Wales
David Goodger – Early Years Wales
Sarah Witcombe-Hayes - NSPCC
Johanna Robinson – Welsh Government
Yasmin Khan – Welsh Government
Euan Hails – NHS ABUHB
Euan Hails – Adferiad
Neil Davies – Home for good
Mike Clark – TGP Cymru
Sarah Williamson - RCPCH

Tina Foster – TGP Cymru
 Becky Millar – Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
 Linda Hawkins – RCTCBC
 Gail Gibbons – Youth Endowment Fund
 Caroline Walters – RCSLT
 Manel Tippett - BPS
 Katie Salisbury – Safe Families
 Joanne Beynon – Safe Families
 Colette Smethurst – Safe Families
 Janine Bennett - Llamau
 Keira Stanton - Llamau
 Dafydd Huw – RCPSYCH
 Davina Carey-Evans – Family Fund
 Rhian Croke – Children’s legal Centre

2. Previous Group Meetings since the last AGM.

Meeting 1.	
Meeting Date: 29 th November 2023	
Attendees:	Jane Dodds MS, Senedd Rhys Taylor, Senedd Sioned Williams MS, Senedd Pheobe Jenkins, Senedd Hugh Russell, Children in Wales Sean O’Neill, Children in Wales Louise O’Neill, Children in Wales Joanne Hopkins, Public Health Wales Claire Williams, Cwm Taf Youth Offending Service Cherrie Bija, Faith in Families Lisa Roberts, PCPCH Anna Westall, Children in Wales Rebekah Millar, Care for the Family Liz Gregory, Parent Infant Foundation Dave Goodger, Early Years Wales Sarah Durant, TGP Cymru Sharon Lovell, NYAS Cymru Sian Cox, Powys County Council Marianne Mannello, Play Wales Alex Williamson, Wave Trust Max Pearson, Office of John Griffiths, MS Eleri Griffiths, Office of Heledd Fychan, MS Tina Foster, TGP Cymru Sarah Thomas, Fostering Network Wales Dave Williams, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Summary of issues discussed:	The focus of the meeting was on ACE’s with presentations from ACE Wales on supporting the ambition for Wales: a trauma-informed nation, and Cwm Taf Youth Offending Service on - Relationship Based Practice Guidance: A trauma and ACE (TrACE) informed approach.

Meeting 2.**Meeting Date:** 24th January 2024**Attendees:**

Jane Dodds MS, Senedd Cymru
Sioned Williams MS, Senedd Cymru
Phoebe Jenkins, Senedd Cymru
Sean O'Neill, Children in Wales
Louise O'Neill, Children in Wales
Linda Hawkins, RCT Council
Rhian Smith, Fostering Network
Mark Carter, Barnardo's Cymru
Amy Bainton, Barnardo's Cymru
Lisa Roberts, RCPCH
Marianne Mannello, Play Wales
Liz Gregory, Parent Infant Foundation
Eleri Griffiths, Office of Nerys Fychan, MS
Catrin Glyn, Carers Trust
Cath Lewis, Guide Dogs Cymru
Cecile Gwilym, NSPCC
Helen Perry, NYAS Cymru
Hannah Williams, Social Care Wales
Samantha Baron
Tina Foster, TGP Cymru
Sian Thomas, Senedd Research

Summary of issues discussed:

The focus of the meeting was to discuss and update on Edge of Care services across Wales. Presenters from last year's meeting provided an update on services across Wales which aim to ensure that children and kept with their families or extended families to avoid being placed into care (where this is possible and in their best interest). Discussions around sustainability of funding and focus on early intervention and prevention.

Meeting 3.**Meeting Date:** 8th May 2024 **Joint Cross Party Group on Poverty****Attendees:**

Jane Dodds MS, Senedd
John Griffiths MS, Senedd
Andrew Bettridge, Senedd Support Staff
Pheobe Jenkins, Senedd Support Staff
Louise O'Neill, Children in Wales
Steffan Evans, Bevan Foundation
Amy Bainton, Barnardos Cymru
Sarah Williamson RCPCH
Dave Goodger, Early Years Wales
Sarah Rees, Oxfam Cymru
Niamh Salkeld, Senedd Support Staff
Sioned Williams MS, Senedd
Cecile Gwilym, NSPCC
Mark Carter, Barnardos Cymru

	<p>Caitlin Glyn, Carers Trust Emma Musgrove, Purple Shoots Jayne Bryant MS, Senedd Hannah Williams, Social Care Wales Dr Dave Williams, ABUHB Sabiha Azad, Welsh Refugee Council Amy Dutton, CAB Cymru Tina Foster, Travelling Ahead Daljit Kaur Morris, NYAS Cymru Mary Van Den Heuvel, NEU Jamie Insole, UCU Yasmin Zahra, Senedd Support Staff Elizabeth Bryan, Fostering.net Manel Tippet, British Psychological Society Katie Till, Trussell Trust Professor Samantha Baren, BASW Cymru Izabelle James, Home-Start Cymru Bethan Phillips, Mind Cymru Jayne Drummond, Home-Start Cymru Gareth Morgan, CEO Ferret Information Systems Karen McFarlane, Children in Wales</p>
Summary of issues discussed:	<p>Focus of discussions were on child poverty. Presentations were received from Children in Wales on the annual child poverty survey and the Bevan Foundation on what the statistics and figures show about poverty in Wales. Minister for Mental Health and Early Years provided reflections.</p>

Meeting 4.

Meeting Date: 12th June 2024

Attendees:

Jane Dodds MS (Chair),
Phoebe Jenkins, Jane Dodds Office Manager
Sean O'Neill, Children in Wales
Amy Bainton, Barnardo's Cymru
Cherrie Bija, Faith in Families
Dajit Kaur Morris, NYAS Cymru
Sarah Williamson, RCPCH Cymru
David Goodger (Early Years Wales
Anna Westall, Children in Wales
Liz Gregory, Paret Infant Foundation
Elizabeth Bryan, Fostering Network
Linda Hawkins, Virtual Schools for CLA RCT
Katie, Safe Families
Manel Tippet, RCP
Mark Carter, Barnardo's Cymru
Neil Davies, Home for Good
Mark Jones, USW
Leanne Parsell, Buffy Williams MS office
Rhian Smith, Fostering Network
Johanne Robinson, Nat Adv VAWDASV WG
Sioned Williams MS,
Tamsin Covell, Fostering Network

	Sian Thomas, Senedd Research Tina Foster, TGP Cymru Natasha Smith, Sarah Witcombe-Hayes, NSPCC Cymru
Summary of issues discussed:	Discussions focused on planning for the Senedd event to be held on 1 st October on the first 1000 days and ACEs. There was an open discussion where members were invited to share ideas in relation to focus, interest in engaging, potential speakers, format and target audience

<u>Meeting 5</u>	
Meeting Date: 15 th July 2024	
Attendees:	Jane Dodds MS, Phoebe Jenkins MSS, Tomos Roberts-Young MSS, Ieuan Parry MSS, Helen Mary Jones Voices from Care Cymru, Sean O’Neil Children in Wales, Elizabeth Bryan Fostering Network, Johanna Robinson Welsh Government, Amy Bainton Barnardo’s Cymru Rachel Thomas Children’s Commissioner Office, Sarah Williamson RCPCH, Ruth Mullineux NSPCC, Dr Liz Gregory Parent Infant Foundation, Rachel Beddoe Children in Wales, Sharon Lovell NYAS, Joanne Beynon Safe Families, Daljit Kaur Morris NYAS, Cath Lewis Guide Dogs Cymru, Isata Kanneh Access to Justice/Bevan Foundation, Becky Millar, David Goodger Early Years Wales, Katie Jacobs, Mike Greenaway Play Wales, Neil Davies Home for Good, Rhian Croke Chamber Swansea University, Tamzin Covell The Fostering Network, Tina Foster TGP Cymru
Summary of issues discussed:	The focus of the meeting explored what a new Children’s Act for Wales could look like. Members shared and discussed their ideas about a new Children’s Act in Wales.

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:

- ACE Wales
- Cwm Taf Youth Offending Service
- Children in Wales
- Bevan Foundation
- Barnardo's Cymru
- NYAS Cymru
- Fostering Network
- NSPCC Cymru

Annual Financial Statement

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