

Jane Hutt MS  
Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd  
and Chief Whip

21 February 2025

Dear Jane,

### Child Poverty Strategy and Monitoring Framework

Members were grateful for a technical briefing from officials on the 10 February and noted the need for further information and clarity on aspects of the Child Poverty Monitoring Framework. Officials agreed to follow-up in several areas when they relate to factual matters, however, some of our questions are more appropriately directed to you as the responsible minister. In this context we would therefore appreciate further information as set out below.

Officials agreed to provide:

- o the current rate for the 7 measures listed in the standard of living domain of the [Framework](#) and trend data in relation to these; and
- o a written note summarising the distinction between outputs and outcomes and the ways in which these are significant in the context of the monitoring framework.

We would be grateful if you could provide:

- o an explanation of the rationale behind focusing on national indicators and omitting other relevant indicators,
- o why the following measures are excluded or cannot be included in the Framework;
  - in the inclusive communities domain: measures on the number of children in poverty at risk of homelessness; and the number of children in poverty by housing tenure;
  - in the education domain: the percentage of children on free school meals studying A-levels/going to university;
  - in the wellbeing domain: measures on proportion of children receiving planned/unplanned hospital care or tooth decay rates in children

- why the national indicator for the percentage of children with two or more healthy lifestyle behaviours was not included as one of the relevant indicators in the framework.
- why the percentage of secondary school children who eat breakfast every weekday by family affluence was included as a measure, given that there are a range of reasons why children in this age group may not eat breakfast.

We look forward to hearing from you and would appreciate if you could provide a response by 14 March.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jenny Rathbone". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'R'.

Jenny Rathbone MS

Chair, Equality and Social Justice Committee