



By email

18 February 2026

Dear chair and members of the Equality and Social Justice Committee,

I write to provide further information following the evidence session on 9 February 2026. You have requested more information regarding the work being undertaken to strengthen Welsh Government's response to the recommendations of my [Future Generations Report 2025](#).

The Cabinet Secretary initially responded to the report on 25 July 2025 through a [written statement](#). Welsh Government subsequently provided their response to the recommendations, which the Committee has seen as part of their [papers for the evidence session](#) on 1 December 2025.

Welsh Government responded positively to the recommendations with very few rejections. However, there were some areas where I thought Welsh Government should take further action in their leadership role and do more to hold public bodies to account. As such, my team and I have had constructive conversations with Cabinet Secretaries and officials on this initial response.

In some cases, Welsh Government were able to act immediately. For example, the Cabinet Secretary agreed to write to all public bodies encouraging them to produce an organisational volunteering strategy (R27). Welsh Government also changed their response from "not applicable" to "accept in principle" to the recommendation that responsibility for the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act ("WFG Act") remains with the Prif Weinidog (R3).

Otherwise, I have recently provided further commentary on where I think their response could be strengthened. For example:

- I am challenging Government on their response to the recommendations relating to prevention. Welsh Government should be leading the way on preventative spend and putting prevention at the heart of the new Programme for Government. They should be giving public bodies incentives and holding NHS organisations to account. The Auditor General for Wales is also pursuing a strengthened response from Welsh Government on recommendations made in his [2025 report](#) regarding investing in prevention.
- On my recommendations relating to budget (R44-47), I have pushed for Government to change their position on ring-fencing funding for prevention (currently "rejected"). I have also asked Welsh Government to map their budgets against the well-being goals and national indicators - an important element of any nation's well-being framework model which is missing in the Wales approach despite us leading on other elements.



- Welsh Government have only “accepted in principle” the recommendation for all public bodies to use the agreed definition of prevention to map their spend (R47). Welsh Government’s response is justified on the basis of them wanting to promote a flexible approach. I have asked for Welsh Government to strengthen their response as my recommendation does not preclude a flexible approach. It is intended to give visibility and to quantify preventative spend, as well as providing a baseline that can be tracked overtime.
- I have recommended that public bodies upskill the teams in the ‘corporate areas of change’ of their organisations (R4). I have asked that Welsh Government not only do this themselves but continue to introduce and implement policy and legislation that aligns with the WFG Act in this respect – for example, the Social Partnership and Procurement Act is changing how we spend public money. Welsh Government should be providing other incentives and holding finance directors, performance managers and other corporate officers across all public bodies to account for delivering on the WFG Act.
- Recommendation 7 of my report calls on Welsh Government to develop an integrated land and marine use framework. I have fed back that their initial response does not address this recommendation and stated that the framework should be developed in line with the review of [Future Wales: The National Plan 2040](#) in 2027.
- Recommendation 12 states that public bodies must prioritise climate resilience, net benefit for biodiversity, and pesticide reduction in how they manage their estates, including their buildings, tenant farms, parks, roadside verges and other land assets. Welsh Government have accepted this, stating that they will include it in their Continuous Learning and Improvement Plan. But I have stated that I would like to see these issues embedded fully within the Government’s own asset strategy.
- We have suggested Welsh Government change their response to “accept” or “adopt” (rather than “accept in principle”) to recommendation 16 that Wales becomes a Marmot Nation. It is not clear why this recommendation has not been adopted in full.
- I have asked the Cabinet Secretary to make a joint statement on public bodies signing the Placemaking Charter (R26). Initially, a response to this recommendation was missing from Welsh Government’s response – perhaps because it is aimed at public bodies and Public Services Boards. However, this is an example of where Welsh Government should be seeing itself as a public body as well as showing its leadership role in incentivising others to act.
- On encouraging Real Living Wage accreditation in the private sector (R28), I have suggested that Welsh Government could support further momentum by identifying the top sectors of the economy with the biggest gap in accreditation and developing a focussed action plan, with partners, to promote the Real Living Wage in these sectors.



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My team have offered to provide briefings and to work collaboratively on several of the recommendations.

I understand Welsh Government intend to publish a further response to the report in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Derek Walker

Future Generations Commissioner for Wales