

Jane Hutt MS
Minister for Social Justice and Chief Whip

28 July 2023

Dear Jane

The Welsh Government's Draft Child Poverty Strategy for Wales 2023

At our meeting on 10 July, the Committee agreed to launch a short inquiry on the Draft Child Poverty Strategy for Wales 2023. We note that you are currently consulting on the Draft Strategy and we wanted an opportunity to gather evidence with a view to influencing the final strategy.

We plan to undertake this work on the following dates:

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 25 September | Three Panels of oral evidence from witnesses |
| 2 October | Roundtable event with stakeholders in Cardiff |
| 9 October | Visits to anti-child poverty charities in Swansea Bay. |

We note that the formal consultation ends in September. Unfortunately, due to prior commitments it will not be possible for us to undertake our planned work any earlier than the dates identified above. We would be grateful if you could please indicate whether the Committee's findings would still be taken into account if we submitted them by the end of October?

The terms of reference for our work are provided in the annex. As these details are yet to be published, I would be grateful if you could please treat this letter **in confidence** until the inquiry is launched.

Yours sincerely,



Jenny Rathbone MS
Chair of Equality and Social Justice Committee

Annex

The Committee is seeking to influence the development of the draft child poverty strategy by considering:

- The extent to which the draft strategy will support the Welsh Government and its partner organisations to maximise their contribution to reducing child poverty within the boundaries of the devolution settlement.
- What best practice in tackling child poverty exists within and beyond Wales, and why do these interventions work. To what extent does the approach outlined in the strategy align with this.
- What barriers exist to implementing solutions that successfully address child poverty in Wales, and how can these be overcome.
- Which indicators should be used to measure progress in addressing child poverty. What specific and measurable targets should be set to assess this.
- How effective will the strategy be in addressing child poverty within specific groups of the population.
- The extent to which children's rights are addressed in the strategy and impact assessment.

