

Equality, Local Government and Communities
Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff

12 April 2017

Dear colleague

Communities First – lessons learnt

The Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee have agreed to undertake three inquiries which look at poverty in Wales. Over the next few months, we will be looking at:

- Communities First – lessons learnt
- Asset based approaches to poverty reduction; and
- Making the economy work for people on low incomes

At this stage, we are seeking your views on the inquiry into Communities First – lessons learnt. We are planning to do a short, focused piece of work. We hope this work will help shape future policy and the transitional arrangements as the programme is closed down by reviewing what has worked effectively in the current programme.



Our terms of reference are:

- what worked and didn't work about the Communities First programme;
- how local authorities will decide which projects continue to receive funding after June 2017; and
- how different poverty reduction programmes (Communities for Work, Lift, Flying Start etc.) will change as a result of the end of Communities First.

We are seeking the views of each Communities First Lead Delivery Body along with all the clusters, as well as third sector stakeholders, such as the WCVA and Bevan Foundation. We are also seeking the views of the three local authorities who have not received any Communities First funding during the course of the programme. It would be helpful if you could use the above terms of reference to frame your response.

In addition to the written consultation, Members of the Committee will also be looking to visit some of the Communities First clusters during the course of the Committee's work.

The written responses will help inform our oral evidence sessions, which we are looking to hold in early June. We would therefore want any submissions to be submitted by **Monday 22 May**.

If you wish to submit evidence, please send an electronic copy of your submission to: SeneddCommunities@assembly.wales

Guidance

Submissions should be no longer than five sides of A4, with numbered paragraphs, and should focus on the terms of reference.

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please provide a brief description of the role of your organisation.



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

Bilingual Policy

The National Assembly for Wales has two official languages, Welsh and English.

In line with the Assembly's [Official Languages Scheme](#), the Committee requests that documents or written responses to consultations intended for publication or use in National Assembly proceedings are submitted bilingually. When documents or written responses are not submitted bilingually, we will publish in the language submitted, stating that it has been received in that language only.

We expect other organisations to implement their own standards or schemes and to comply with their statutory obligations.

Disclosure of Information

You can find further details about how we will use your information at www.assembly.wales/InquiryPrivacy. Please ensure that you have considered these details carefully before submitting information to the Committee.

Contact details

If you wish to speak to someone regarding this consultation, please use the following contact details:

Committee Clerk

Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

National Assembly for Wales

Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA.



Email: SeneddCommunities@assembly.wales

Telephone: 0300 200 6565

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John". The letters are cursive and connected.

John Griffiths AM

Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

