

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

19 April 2017

Dear colleague

Making the economy work for people on low incomes

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

We currently have a written consultation open on the Communities First – lessons learnt strand, and are now launching a written consultation on the strand looking at making the economy work for people on low incomes.

This inquiry will build on the initial work the Committee undertook earlier this year including; discussions we had with stakeholders at a stakeholder event in January, and the two evidence sessions we held with the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure and Cabinet Secretary for Children and Communities.

We will also be reflecting on the sessions the Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee have held looking at the economic strategy for Wales.



Our terms of reference are:

- How the Welsh Government’s economic strategy and employability plan can:
 - Create more inclusive economic growth that benefits people and places equally across Wales;
 - interact with the UK Government’s Work and Health Programme;
 - Reduce the proportion of people on low incomes in Wales; and
 - Address economic inequalities between different groups of people
- An exploration of low pay sectors, and measures to improve pay of low-paid workers such as the living wage;
- Ways to increase the security of work in Wales; and
- The role that welfare benefits play in supporting people on low incomes in Wales.

It would be helpful if you could use the above terms of reference to frame your response.

The written responses will help inform our oral evidence sessions, which we are looking to hold in July. We would therefore want any submissions to be submitted by **Monday 19 June**.

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 fluid, with a long horizontal stroke for the 'J' and a similar one for the 'h'.

John Griffiths AM

Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

