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Y Dirprwy Weinidog a'r Prif Chwip
Deputy Minister and Chief Whip



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

John Griffiths AM,
Chair
Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

4 November 2019

Dear John,

This letter updates you on work we've undertaken to improve transparency in the equality data published by Welsh public bodies. This follows the Committee's recommendation, in the [report on parenting and employment in Wales](#), to "publish employment data required by the Welsh public sector equality duties to a single location on the Welsh Government's website, in a format that allows the data to be analysed easily".

When accepting the recommendation we noted that, given public sector employers have the responsibility for complying with the duty, we would work with public sector bodies to ensure their equality data were published as open data, and provide a single location to enable straightforward access this information.

This year, for the first time, Welsh Government published open data spreadsheets to accompany its 2017-18 Employer's Equality Report. Following this we worked with, and supported, public bodies by sharing guidance on publishing open data tables, circulating FAQs and hosting webinars to share best practices. As a result of this work users can now find links to Public Sector Equality Duty data in one place in the Equality and diversity section of our [StatsWales¹](#) website, making it easier to find and analyse the information.

It has been encouraging to see the positive support of the public bodies in our attempt to demonstrate greater transparency and accountability in the way public body equality data is published. Currently not all public bodies are included, therefore we will continue to work with those bodies to encourage them to publish open data spreadsheets that we can then add to the published list.

¹ <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Equality-and-Diversity/Public-Sector-Equality-Duty>

We're also aware that public bodies will be publishing data using inconsistent categories. But we were keen to take the first, easier, step of providing a central point to access these data.

We believe that bringing this open data available into a single location demonstrates the commitment of Wales' public sector to advancing and safeguarding equality and human rights.

I hope the Committee finds this update helpful.

Yours sincerely,
Jane

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