

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

Pwyllgor Diwylliant, Cyfathrebu, y Gymraeg, Chwaraeon, a Chysylltiadau Rhyngwladol | Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and International Relations Committee

Cymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon mewn ardaloedd difreintiedig | Participation in sport in disadvantaged areas

CCWLSIR SDA 03

Ymateb gan Gymdeithas Bêl Droed Cymru | Response from Football Association of Wales



**Ymchwiliad i gymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon mewn ardaloedd difreintiedig /  
*Inquiry into participation in sport in disadvantaged areas***

Sylwadau ysgrifenedig Ymddiriedolaeth Pêl-droed Cymru /  
*Written response from Football Association of Wales*

Cyd-destyn / Context

Our strategic plan, Our Wales (2021 – 26), identifies a key strategic objective to develop ‘A flexible, inclusive and appealing playing offer’ which includes a specific goal to ‘Make football accessible and affordable for people from different socioeconomic backgrounds, and appealing and actively engaging to all segments of Welsh society.’

Sefyllfa presennol / Current position

We have 953 football clubs in Wales ensuring that football opportunities are embedded in every community in Wales

On average 3.1% of our local authority residents are members of a football club with a very small margin of difference between all 22 Local Authorities, reinforcing the consistency of opportunity and accessibility of football opportunities across Wales.

Comparing the 5 most deprived areas of Wales against the 5 least deprived areas, we have an equal number of junior and adult participants from both categorised areas which highlights the affordability and accessibility of football across the variety of Welsh communities.

Datblygiadau diweddar / Recent developments

Despite recognising this, we have been proactive in addressing the financial challenges and access to our sport, following the COVID-19 pandemic and the increased cost of living, through establishing the PAWB fund. The funding programme, which was established in September 2021, has already distributed over £10,000 to directly support young people to access regular football opportunities.

Heriau'r dyfodol / Future challenges

The cost of talent development programmes is a challenge we're fully aware of and proactively trying to address to ensure more affordable and consistent programme costs that enables all families in Wales to access these opportunities. The cost of private football provision through commercial soccer schools or 1:1 coaching is a concern that is more difficult for us to influence but can alter the perception of the affordability of football.

Os hoffech chi fwy o wybodaeth, peidiwch oedi i gysylltu â ni.

Noel Mooney – [nmooney@faw.cymru](mailto:nmooney@faw.cymru)

Aled Lewis – [aled.lewis@fawtrust.cymru](mailto:aled.lewis@fawtrust.cymru)



Ian Gwyn Hughes – [ighughes@faw.cymru](mailto:ighughes@faw.cymru)