

SP 35

Blaenoriaethau ar gyfer y Pwyllgor Cydraddoldeb,
Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau

Priorities for the Equality,

Local Government and Communities Committee

Ymateb gan: Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb a Hawliau Dynol

Response from: Equality and Human Rights Commission

John Griffiths AM

Chairperson, Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA

September 2, 2016

Dear John,

Priorities for the Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

We welcome the opportunity to respond to the Committee's call for issues to focus on in its work programme.

We were pleased to meet you last month to discuss equality and human rights priorities in Wales. Below is a summary of key areas we discussed and that the Committee may wish to explore in its work.

The Commission's [Is Wales Fairer? report](#) brings together evidence to answer the question as to whether Wales is fairer today than it was when we published our first review five years ago. We identify seven key equality and human rights challenges for Wales. The Committee's assistance in exploring these challenges would help protect and promote equality and human rights in Wales.

Please see the attached list of the challenges and related priorities.

We welcome your suggestion that the Committee is likely to continue exploring the links between equality and poverty, following up the Inquiries of your predecessor Committee. We are keen to inform this work.

At our meeting we discussed concerns regarding reported incidents of hostility faced by refugees and asylum seekers in Wales. We agreed that this – and wider discussion over how Wales is able to respond to asylum and refugee issues – may be an area the Committee wishes to explore.

The Equality and Human Rights Commission and the Future Generations Commissioner are both working towards a fairer Wales, a more equal Wales. It will be important to ensure we both work effectively to drive positive change and ensure we do not burden public service with similar but different requirements. At some point, the Committee may wish to look at how well the approach is working.

We look forward to working closely with the Committee in the fifth Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Bennett

National Director for Wales, Equality and Human Rights Commission



Crynodeb heriau allweddol

1. Cau bylchau cyrhaeddiad mewn addysg.

- Cau bylchau cyrhaeddiad drwy godi safonau plant sy'n cael Prydau Ysgol am Ddim, plant gydag Anghenion Addysgol Arbennig (AAA), plant sy'n derbyn gofal a phlant Sipsiwn a Theithwyr.
- Lleihau eithriadau o'r ysgol a lleihau bwlio.

2. Annog recriwtio, datblygu a gwobrwyo teg mewn cyflogaeth.

- Cynyddu cyfraddau cyflogaeth pobl ifanc, pobl anabl, pobl lleiafrifoedd ethnig a Mwslimiaid
- Cau'r bwlch cyflog gan ganolbwyntio ar bobl ifanc, pobl lleiafrifoedd ethnig a menywod

3. Gwella amodau byw mewn cymunedau cydlynol.

- Lleihau tlodi yn enwedig ymysg plant, pobl anabl a phobl lleiafrifoedd ethnig
- Gwella mynediad at ofal i bobl hŷn a phlant
- Lleihau digartrefedd, yn arbennig ar gyfer pobl ifanc sy'n dianc o drais domestig a phobl gyda phroblemau iechyd meddwl neu anabledau dysgu

4. Cynyddu mynediad at gyfiawnder ac annog cyfranogiad democrataidd

- Sicrhau mynediad cyfartal ac effeithiol i gyfiawnder sifil i bawb
- Gwella cyfranogiad gwleidyddol a sifil a chynyddu amrywiaeth mewn bywyd cyhoeddus

5. Gwella mynediad at wasanaethau iechyd meddwl a chefnogaeth ar gyfer y rhai sy'n profi problemau iechyd meddwl.

- Gwella mynediad at wasanaethau iechyd meddwl
- Lleihau'r gyfradd o hunanladdiad yn arbennig ymysg dynion

6. Atal cam-drin, esgeulustod a chamdriniaeth mewn lleoliadau gofal a chadw.

- Atal cam-drin, esgeuluso a chamdriniaeth o blant a phobl hŷn mewn ysbytai a chartrefi gofal
- Diogelu hawliau dynol pobl yn y ddalfa

7. Diddymu trais, cam-drin ac aflonyddu yn y gymuned.

- Dileu achosion o drais, cam-drin ac aflonyddu yn arbennig yn erbyn menywod, pobl anabl, pobl lleiafrifoedd ethnig, pobl Fwslimaidd a phobl lesbiaidd, hoyw, deurywiol a thrawsrywiol.

Ffôn: 029 2044 7710

Ebost: wales@equalityhumanrights.com

Gwefan: www.equalityhumanrights.com



Key challenges summary

- 1. Close attainment gaps in education.**
 - Close attainment gaps by raising standards of children receiving Free School Meals, children with Special Educational Needs (SEN), looked-after children and Gypsy and Traveller children.
 - Reduce exclusions from school and reduce bullying.
- 2. Encourage fair recruitment, development and reward in employment.**
 - Increase the employment rates of young people, disabled people, ethnic minority people and Muslim people.
 - Close pay gaps focusing on young people, ethnic minority people and women.
- 3. Improve living conditions in cohesive communities.**
 - Reduce poverty especially amongst children, disabled people and ethnic minority people.
 - Improve access to care for older people and children.
 - Reduce homelessness, especially for people fleeing domestic abuse and people with poor mental health or learning disabilities.
- 4. Increase access to justice and encourage democratic participation.**
 - Ensure equal and effective access to civil justice for everyone.
 - Improve political and civil participation and increase diversity in public life.
- 5. Improve access to mental health services and support to people experiencing poor mental health.**
 - Improve access to mental health services.
 - Reduce the rate of suicide especially amongst men.
- 6. Prevent abuse, neglect and ill-treatment in care and detention.**
 - Prevent abuse, neglect and ill-treatment of children and older people in hospitals and care homes.
 - Protect human rights of people held in detention.
- 7. Eliminate violence, abuse and harassment in the community.**
 - Eliminate the incidence of violence, abuse and harassment particularly against women, disabled people, ethnic minority people, Muslim people and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

Phone: 029 2044 7710

Email: wales@equalityhumanrights.com

Website: www.equalityhumanrights.com