

Dr. Robert Jones
School of Law and Politics
Cardiff University

21 October 2025

Dear Dr. Jones,

Welsh Justice Data: Annual Release

Thank you for bringing the publication of the Welsh Justice Data to our attention. Whilst we welcome the publication of this data, we would appreciate if you could provide further clarification about the missing data and possible implications of the gaps in datasets.

Clarification on missing data

Could you specify which datasets from the original list of 'priority areas' were not included in the Ministry of Justice's release?

Can you provide a breakdown of the most critical data gaps (e.g. parental imprisonment, deaths in custody, Welsh-speaking prisoners) and why they matter for scrutiny and policy?

Were any of the omissions due to data not being collected at all, or simply not being published?

Implications of the gaps

What are the practical consequences of not having access to these missing datasets for researchers and policymakers?

How do these gaps affect our understanding of criminal justice, especially in areas like racial disproportionality or women's imprisonment?

Next steps

We would also appreciate if you could outline your expectations or recommendations for future data releases?

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jenny Rathbone". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial 'J'.

Jenny Rathbone MS

Chair of the Equality and Social Justice Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.