



Ministry
of Justice

Lord Timpson
Minister of State for Justice

Jenny Rathbone MS
Equality and Social Justice Senedd Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

MoJ ref: SUB129153

14 November 2025

Dear Jenny,

Welsh Disaggregated Data Update

I am writing to provide an update on the progress of the Welsh Disaggregated Data Working Group, which was established in response to longstanding calls for improved justice data specific to Wales, including recommendations made by the 2019 Thomas Commission on Justice in Wales.

Over the past 18 months, the Ministry of Justice has made significant strides in addressing these concerns. Working collaboratively with Welsh Government officials and stakeholders (including Dr Robert Jones), we have focused on improving transparency, accessibility and relevance of Welsh-specific justice data.

Key achievements to date include:

- A comprehensive review of nearly 400 Welsh Government priority data requests, which found that **40% of the requested data is already published**, with clear signposting provided to aid navigation.
- The development and publication of **new Welsh-specific datasets**, including:
 - An annual management information release aligned with Dr Jones' key requirements for Welsh prisoner data.
 - A bespoke Welsh reoffending data release for the Equalities and Social Justice Committee.
 - Additional breakdowns such as custody type by institution and deaths under probation supervision in Approved Premises, published in the October 2025 Offender Management Statistics Quarterly release.
- A commitment to publish further data on homelessness by institution and Welsh language when it is available (anticipated by the end of 2026).
- Support for the development of a publicly available Welsh Government dashboard, which has received positive feedback.
- Facilitation of data sharing agreements, including for Welsh youth justice data.

In addition, substantial volumes of data are now accessible via the ONS Secure Research Service and the Welsh Government-funded SAIL databank, supporting evidence-based policy development.

Through a combination of targeted data releases, improved signposting, collaborative engagement with Welsh Government and academic stakeholders and the development of publicly accessible dashboards and linked datasets, we have significantly expanded the availability and visibility of Welsh-specific justice data. I trust this demonstrates that we substantively addressed the recommendation from the 2019 Commission that “*Wales specific data should be collected and published on a sufficient scale to enable disaggregation, with a view to proper evidence-based policy development and as a basis for research.*”

Officials will continue to enhance Welsh data provision where opportunities arise, promote awareness of existing datasets and maintain engagement with stakeholders to understand emerging priorities. However, further dedicated data development would require additional expenditure that is not currently available within the existing budget.

I hope this update provides clarity on the progress made to date and reaffirms our commitment to this important work.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lord Timpson

Minister for Prisons, Probation and Reducing Reoffending