

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

12 November 2018

Dear Colleague

Consultation on voting rights for prisoners

The Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee is undertaking an inquiry into **voting rights for prisoners**.

Terms of reference

The Committee's terms of reference for its inquiry are to consider:

- Arguments for and against giving some or all prisoners the right to vote in Welsh elections, and whether distinctions might be drawn between different categories of prisoner on the basis of sentence length, expected date of release, or types of offence;
- Practical issues, such as electoral registration (including address), voting method, prisoner engagement with the political process, the provision of political and citizenship information and education;
- Cross-border issues arising from prisoners from Wales being imprisoned in England and vice versa;



- Whether special considerations apply to young offenders in custody if the franchise is extended to 16 and 17 year olds generally, and
- Other countries' approaches to prisoner voting.

Invitation to contribute to the inquiry

The Committee would like to invite you to submit written evidence to assist in its consideration of the inquiry. It would be helpful if you could use the above terms of reference to frame your response.

Submissions should arrive no later than **Monday 7 January 2019**.

If you wish to submit evidence, please send an electronic copy of your submission to: SeneddCommunities@assembly.wales

Dialogue page

Alternatively if you would prefer to respond on our dialogue page, which asks more specific questions about voting rights for prisoners, please use the link below:

<https://senedd.dialogue-app.com/do-you-think-prisoners-should-be-allowed-to-vote-in-welsh-elections>

Guidance

Submissions should be no longer than five sides of A4, with numbered paragraphs, and should focus on the terms of reference.

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please provide a brief description of the role of your organisation.

Please see the [guidance for those providing evidence for committees](#).

Bilingual Policy

The Committee welcomes contributions in both or either of our official languages, English and Welsh. Information not submitted bilingually will not be translated and will be published in the language of submission only. We expect organisations to



implement their own standards and schemes and to comply with their statutory obligations.

Disclosure of Information

You can find further details about how we will use your information at www.assembly.wales/InquiryPrivacy. Please ensure that you have considered these details carefully before submitting information to the Committee.

Contact details

If you wish to speak to someone regarding this consultation, please use the following contact details:

Committee Clerk

Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

National Assembly for Wales

Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA.

Email: SeneddCommunities@assembly.wales

Telephone: 0300 200 6565

Yours sincerely,



John Griffiths AM

Chair, Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

