

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

4 June 2018

Dear Councillor

Consultation on diversity in local government

The National Assembly for Wales' Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee is undertaking an inquiry into **diversity in local government**.

Terms of reference

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

- To understand the importance of diversity among local councillors, including the effect on public engagement, debate and decision making.
- To understand key barriers to attracting a more diverse pool of candidates for local government elections.
- To explore areas of innovation and good practice that may help increase diversity in local government.
- To explore the potential impact of the proposals in the Welsh Government's Green Paper, Strengthening Local Government to increasing diversity in Council chambers.



The Committee would like to invite you, as Council Leader, to submit written evidence to inform its inquiry. It would be helpful if you could use the above terms of reference to frame your response. I have written in similar terms to your Chief Executive and to the Welsh Local Government Association.

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

Submissions should arrive no later than **Friday 24 August 2018**.

Online survey

The Committee is also keen to hear the views of serving council members. We would therefore like to invite all members of your council to take part in an online survey, the results of which will further inform our work. It would be helpful if you could make arrangements to draw the survey to the attention of your members. The survey can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/5Y2K56G>

In addition to the survey, we are hoping to arrange discussion groups with councillors across the regions, in particular those who have successfully overcome specific barriers to participation. I have asked Assembly officials to liaise with relevant local government officers in this regard.

If you or any of your council colleagues wish to speak to someone regarding the inquiry, 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

I would like to thank you in advance for your assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John". The letters are cursive and connected.

John Griffiths AM

Chair, Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee



Guidance on submitting written evidence

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.

