

Children and Young People Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

15 December 2009

Dear Sir / Madam

Children and Young People Committee Inquiry into the provision of safe places to play and hang out

During the 'it's all about you' project carried out during the summer 2009, children and young people in Wales told us that they were concerned by the current level of safe places to play and hang out provided for them in Wales. As a result, the Children and Young People Committee has decided to carry out an inquiry into the provision for safe places to play and hang out. The terms of reference for the Committee's inquiry are attached at annex 1.

Call for written evidence

The Committee is interested in finding out your views on the issues affecting the provision of, and barriers to accessing, safe places to play and hang out. Written submissions that address either some or all of the areas set out in the terms of reference will be welcomed.

Call for evidence from children and young people

We are keen to encourage children and young people to tell us their views on the issues. Links to electronic versions of questionnaires for children and young people are attached at annex 2. Hard copies of the questionnaires can be obtained by emailing your request to:
Children&YoungPeopleCommittee@wales.gsi.gov.uk

The Committee will also welcome video and photographic images as evidence from children and young people in place of, or in addition to written evidence. Video and photographic evidence should be appropriate for broadcast and should be presented in such a way as to make the photographers' views clear. Videos should be no more than 5 minutes in length. The Consent Forms which contain the Terms and

conditions for submission of video and photographic evidence are also attached at annex 3. Please note that we cannot accept video or photographic evidence without the proper consent.

How to submit evidence

All evidence should be submitted, electronically where possible, to the children&youngpeoplecommittee@wales.gsi.gov.uk no later than Friday 19 February 2010.

Questionnaires can be submitted in hard copy by sending them to the address shown below:

Abigail Phillips
Freepost SWC 3358
National Assembly for Wales
CARDIFF BAY
CF99 1GY

If you are unable to submit your evidence in either of these ways, please contact the Clerk to the Committee, Abigail Phillips, to discuss alternative submission methods.

Please note that we are unable to return any evidence once submitted.

Disclosure of Information

Witnesses should be aware that once evidence has been submitted to the Committee it is treated as the property of the Committee. It is the Committee's intention to place written papers, and some video and photographic evidence on its website, and these may subsequently be printed and made available with the report. The National Assembly will not publish information which it considers to be personal data without the consent of the person whose data it is. In the event of a request for information submitted under UK legislation, it may be necessary to disclose the information that you provide. This may include information which has previously been removed by the National Assembly for publication purposes.

If you are providing any information, other than personal data, which you feel is not suitable for public disclosure, it is up to you to stipulate which parts should not be published, and to provide a reasoned argument to support this. The National Assembly will take this into

account when publishing information or responding to requests for information.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Mary Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'J' at the end.

**Helen Mary Jones AM,
Chair, Children and Young People Committee**

Terms of Reference

To inquire into the experiences of children (aged 11 and under) and young people (aged 11-18) in Wales in accessing safe places to play and hang out.

The inquiry will:

- **Consider issues affecting the play experiences of specific groups of children and young people** such as:
 - Children and young people living in rural areas
 - Children and young people living in disadvantaged areas and in low income households
 - Disabled children and young people
 - Children and young people from marginalized groups such as the Gypsy Traveller community
- **Review issues relevant to existing provision** such as:
 - The consistency and the quality of provision
 - What can be done to make the play and leisure facilities that do exist in communities to be safer and feel safer
 - The costs of accessing provision, including transport costs
- **Review the effectiveness of current policy provision and initiatives in providing safe places to play and hang out** such as:
 - Welsh Government Play Policy and Play Implementation Plan
 - Potential impact of Children and Families (Wales) Measure
 - Existing Youth and Leisure Services
 - Planning Policy and its implementation
 - Welsh Government Communities First Programme
 - Role of Schools and specifically Community Focused Schools
 - Homezones
 - Community safety initiatives such as Police And Communities Together (PACT)
- **Examine the impact of specific barriers to safe places to play and hang out** such as:
 - Bullying
 - Negative stereo types of children and young people / perceptions of anti-social behaviour
 - Traffic and road safety issues

Annex 2

[Link to Questionnaire for Children](#) (on-line form) – this link will be unavailable after 1 March 2010.

[Link to Questionnaire for Young People](#) – this link will be unavailable after 1 March 2010.



CONSENT FORM

Photographic and Video Images

1. This Form is to be used in gathering photographic and video evidence to submit to the Children and Young People Committee's Inquiry into the provision of safe places to play and hang out.
2. This Form obtains the consent of a person, or a parent, carer, or guardian of a person who:-
 - (i) creates or produces; or
 - (ii) appears in;a photograph or video image (image(s)) that will be used by the National Assembly for Wales.
3. This Form must be completed by the person giving consent, or a parent, carer, or guardian if the person is under 18 years before the photographs are taken or video is made.
4. By signing this Form you understand and accept that:-
 - (i) you do not have to take part, but that you agree to do so; and
 - (ii) your appearance in any image(s) may result in people recognising you in any programme, film, item, article, or other media that may incorporate the image(s).
5. By signing this Form you consent to the National Assembly:-
 - (i) using the image(s) to promote its activities in any manner and any format it considers appropriate, including (but not limited to), in Committee Reports, on its website, on third party websites including social networking sites, and in any other promotional materials, broadcast and other media;

- (ii) owning the copyright in the image(s);
- (iii) holding the image(s) for five years from the date of this form, after this time the image(s) will not be used without obtaining consent again;
- (iv) using the image(s) even though the:-
 - (a) image(s) may be changed, altered, distorted, blurred, and used in conjunction with text or audio; and
 - (b) National Assembly cannot exercise control over the image(s) on websites other than the National Assembly website, and any other third party which may change, alter, deface, or manipulate the image(s).

IF YOU ARE UNDER 18 YRS - PLEASE ALSO OBTAIN THE SIGNATURE OF YOUR PARENT/ CARER / GUARDIAN

PERSON CREATING, PRODUCING, OR APPEARING IN THE PHOTOGRAPH / VIDEO

Name

Address

Signature

Date

Telephone / Mobile

DETAILS OF PARENT/ CARER / GUARDIAN (WHERE RELEVANT)

Name

Address

Signature

Date

Telephone / Mobile