

Jayne Bryant AS/MS  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol, Tai a Chynllunio  
Cabinet Secretary for Housing, Local Government and Planning



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Rhys Ab Owen  
Member of the Senedd for South Wales Central

Rhys.abOwen@senedd.wales

2 August 2024

Dear Rhys,

I am writing in response to your written question tabled on 15 July regarding resolving the inequality in voter ID requirements in the Elections Act 2022.

The Welsh Government is committed to improving electoral participation in Wales whether through better accessibility for voters, improved public awareness or through funding organisations to support hard to reach groups to engage in democracy.

We have never supported the introduction of voter identification. While ID is not required to participate in Senedd and local government elections in Wales we are concerned about the potential impacts of its use for reserved polls on voter confusion and on operational complexity for administrators.

The Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Bill that the Senedd recently agreed will open democracy to those that are currently excluded or disengaged. Some of its provisions include improving the registration system, the accessibility of elections and the information available to the electorate ahead of Welsh elections.

In relation to young people specifically, we are continuing to work with partners to help close knowledge and confidence gaps, including where to access information on the electoral process and what to expect at a polling station.

Looking forward, the next meeting of the Interministerial Group on Elections and Registration will provide an opportunity to discuss issues relating to elections and electoral registration policy across the UK, including improving electoral participation.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

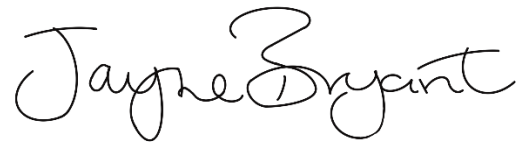
[Gohebiaeth.Jayne.Bryant@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Jayne.Bryant@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Jayne.Bryant@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Jayne.Bryant@gov.wales)

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We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely



**Jayne Bryant AS/MS**

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[Gohebiaeth.Jayne.Bryant@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Jayne.Bryant@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Jayne.Bryant@gov.Wales](mailto:Correspondence.Jayne.Bryant@gov.Wales)

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