

**Jane Hutt AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Social Justice



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Rhys ab Owen, Member of the Senedd

20 November 2023

Dear Rhys,

Thank you for your written question on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023. You asked:

- Will the Welsh Government commit to a) commemorating the victims of racially linked miscarriages of justice in Wales since 1982 and b) apologising to the communities affected by them, in the interest of producing a truly anti-racist culture in Wales?

I said I would write to you with a substantive reply, and I must firstly thank you for your patience and apologise for the delay in responding to you.

Criminal justice, including sentencing policy, is reserved and is the responsibility of the UK Government. On that basis, it would not be appropriate for the Welsh Government to apologise for something not within our competency. However, I would like to express my sympathies with those affected by historic miscarriages of justice, including those linked to racism in the criminal justice system.

Although criminal justice is not devolved, the Welsh Government is committed to using the levers at our disposal to tackle embedded racism in the justice sector. Recognising that criminal justice is frequently identified as an area in which there is racial injustice, the crime and justice chapter of the Anti-racist Wales Action Plan, which includes hate crime, sets out the action we are taking.

The activity highlighted in the chapter includes working with criminal justice partners on the Criminal Justice Anti-Racism Action Plan for Wales which was published in September 2022. The Plan is collectively owned by criminal justice agencies working in Wales, alongside the Welsh Government, and sets out commitments being taken by partners across Wales to address systemic racism. The actions in the plan are based on extensive consultation with people with lived experiences of racism.

Yours

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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.