

**Policy Forum for Wales keynote seminar:
Next steps for the children's care system in Wales**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 16th April 2024

*****Taking Place Online*****

Draft agenda subject to change



- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Member of the Senedd
- 9.05 **Options for improving the children's care system in Wales**
Senior representative, children's services
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Next steps for improving service provision**
Addressing levels of children entering care / Improving early intervention measures / Enhancing support for parents and carers
Julie Davies, Head of Child and Family Services, Swansea Council
Harvey Gallagher, Chief Executive Officer, Nationwide Association of Fostering Providers
Fiona MacLeod, Project Lead, Parent Advocacy, PAN West Glamorgan
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.15 **'Care and support for children in Wales - key messages from CIW's inspection programme'**
Gillian Baranski, Chief Inspector, Care Inspectorate Wales
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Member of the Senedd
- 10.45 Break
- 10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Member of the Senedd
- 11.00 **Options for improving the care experience for children in Wales and securing better outcomes**
Improving educational attainment for children in care / Mental health and wellbeing support / Legal rights / Reducing data gaps for care / Building the workforce
Professor Colette McAuley, CASCADE Research Centre, Cardiff University
Dr Emily Lowthian, Lecturer in Education, Swansea University
Dr Karen Kenny, Senior Educator Developer, Academic Personal Tutoring, University of Exeter
Elisa Jenkins, Education and Children's Rights Solicitor, Simpkins Millar
Deborah Williams, Headteacher, Cardiff Virtual School
Senior representative, union
- 11.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Supporting care leavers**
Improving outcomes / Access to education and employment opportunities / Assessing responsibilities of local authorities / Priorities for ensuring access to safe and adequate housing
Helen Davies, Director, Sunflower Lounge
Hannah Kirkbride, Chief Executive Officer, Career Matters
Councillor Ash Lister, Cabinet Member for Social Services (Children), Cardiff Council
Senior representative, housing
Senior representative, FE
- 12.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Policy priorities for care services in Wales moving forward**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Wales closing remarks**
Senior Member of the Senedd
Tiernan Phipps, Policy Forum for Wales