

Carl Sargeant AC/AM

**Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth
Leol
Minister for Social Justice and Local Government**



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-294 WWNC
Ein cyf/Our ref CS/00946/10

Christine Chapman AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

9 July 2010

Dear Christine

Thank you for your letter dated 21 June regarding the petition that has been raised by the Wales Women National Coalition.

Please be assured that I remain committed to ensuring that the voice, needs and views of women in Wales continue to be heard in respect of policy and decision making and I am considering ways in which this can be best achieved.

Once I have fully considered all available options, I will write to you as Chair of the Petitions Committee and publish my decision.

Yours sincerely

Carl Sargeant

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AM 18

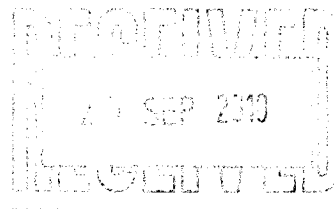
Correspondence from Equality of Opportunity Chair

Y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal

Equality of Opportunity Committee

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Christine Chapman AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
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21 September 2010

Dear Chris

Thank you for your letter of 12 July regarding the Wales Women's National Coalition.

As you are aware, the Equality of Opportunity Committee plans to look at gender budgeting in the autumn term. At its meeting on 5 October, we will be taking evidence from the UK Women's Budget Group and the University and College Union. The Committee will then have an opportunity to scrutinise the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government and Minister for Business and Budget at its meeting on 19 October. As part of this scrutiny, I would be happy to raise the issues contained in the petition.

Yours sincerely

Ann Jones AC / AM
Cadeirydd / Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg / We welcome correspondence in both English and Welsh

Y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal / Equality of Opportunity Committee
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Y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal

Equality of Opportunity Committee

Christine Chapman AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
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1 November 2010

Dear Chris

Further to my letter of 21 September regarding the Wales Women's National Coalition, I can confirm that during our scrutiny of the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government on gender budgeting on 19 October, I asked the Minister how the needs and views of women in Wales would now be taken into account.

I have enclosed the relevant sections of the meeting transcript so you can see the response given by the Minister.

Yours sincerely



Ann Jones AC / AM
Cadeirydd / Chair

[24] **Ann Jones:** Now that the Wales Women's National Coalition is no longer operating, who do you go to? It used to offer support in making sure that budgets did not necessarily discriminate against women. How are you going to do that now with this void?

[25] **Carl Sargeant:** That is an interesting point that I have been toiling over for the last couple of months. We are in the process of trying to establish a body that will not take the place of the Wales Women's National Coalition, but will be a referral body that gives us the information that we need as a unit. I have had many discussions, including with the Women's Institute in Wales. I am currently in discussions with the Wales Council for Voluntary Action about how it can help us to develop the process. It has not fallen off the agenda. I recognise that there is a void that we need to fill rapidly.