

Elin Jones AM
Llywydd

6 November 2018

Dear Llywydd

Voting rights for prisoners

Thank you for your letter of 6 September which invited the Committee to consider an inquiry into voting rights for prisoners.

We agreed to undertake the inquiry at the meeting on 3 October. We have agreed the following terms of reference, and will be launching the inquiry next week:

- Arguments for and against giving some or all prisoners the right to vote in Welsh elections, and whether distinctions might be drawn between different categories of prisoner on the basis of sentence length, expected date of release, or types of offence;
- Practical issues, such as electoral registration (including address), voting method, prisoner engagement with the political process, the provision of political and citizenship information and education;
- Cross-border issues arising from prisoners from Wales being imprisoned in England and vice versa;
- Whether special considerations apply to young offenders in custody if the franchise is extended to 16 and 17 year olds generally, and



- Other countries' approaches to prisoner voting.

I will keep you updated with our work.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John', with a stylized flourish at the end.

John Griffiths AM
Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

