



29 September 2022

To: Chair of the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee, Llyr Gruffydd MS

Dear Committee Chair,

Feminist Scorecard 2022

We are writing to you to share key recommendations from our Feminist Scorecard 2022 that are relevant to the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee. The Feminist Scorecard 2022, launched in July this year, tracks the Welsh Government's progress towards advancing women's rights and gender equality in six policy areas:

- Fair Finance
- Caring Responsibilities
- Global Women's Rights
- Equal Representation and Leadership
- Tackling Gender Health Inequalities, and
- Ending Violence Against Women and Girls

Each area is rated using a traffic light system (red, amber, and green), indicating the level of progress towards equality for women and girls in Wales. Your Committee's portfolio crosses several areas and we would like to highlight actions needed to improve women's situation in each area below.

Caring Responsibilities

The area of Caring Responsibilities has regressed from amber to red over the last two years. This reflects the sharp impact of unequal caring responsibilities during the pandemic, with sometimes disastrous effects on women's mental health and finances. The Welsh Government has made positive commitments around childcare and social care, but the pace of action does not reflect the urgency for change. It is therefore a key recommendation that the Welsh Government should invest in a care-led recovery as part of building back greener and fairer and to address the cost-of-living crisis.

Investments in care are green and consistent with the transition to a low carbon economy, as jobs in care directly produce only a small proportion of the emissions of the average current job and use fewer imported inputs. In the long run, an economy with more people employed in care will produce fewer emissions.

Research shows that such investments will improve the resilience of the Welsh society and economy, will boost employment, will help lift people out of poverty and will reduce long-term costs through improving general well-being, in line with the Well-being of Future Generations Act.



Global Women's Rights

We were pleased to see some progress in the area of Global Women's Rights, which retained its amber rating. However, urgent action is needed to support sanctuary seekers and those affected by climate change globally for Wales to be a nation of sanctuary and global solidarity. The Scorecard recommends that Welsh Government should:

- Recognise and provide appropriate support for climate refugees.
- Ensure that the potential of investments in female-dominated, low-carbon sectors such as care and education is adequately considered in the transition to net zero, both domestically and internationally.

We would be grateful for the opportunity to meet with you to discuss how we can work together for greener Wales that cares, and to ensure that women and girls in Wales will not be held back for many years to come. Please contact Fadhilah Gubari at Oxfam Cymru to arrange a suitable date for a meeting on fgubari1@oxfam.org.uk.

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Rees'.

Sarah Rees
Head of Oxfam Cymru

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Catherine Fookes'.

Catherine Fookes
Director of WEN Wales