

# A guide to the Research Service

November 2016



National Assembly for Wales  
Research Service

The National Assembly for Wales is the democratically elected body that represents the interests of Wales and its people, makes laws for Wales, agrees Welsh taxes and holds the Welsh Government to account.

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# What is the Research Service?

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The Research Service is part of the National Assembly for Wales based in Tŷ Hywel, Cardiff Bay. We are completely independent of the Welsh Government.

We are an expert, impartial and confidential research, analysis and information service designed to meet the needs of Assembly Members and their staff. We have substantial knowledge of policy in Wales and an unrivalled expertise in understanding the information needs of Assembly Members.

The Research Service provides specialist parliamentary support to all 60 Assembly Members and the Assembly's Committees.

The Research Service consists of:

- four research teams providing specialist advice on specific areas of policy
- a Financial Scrutiny Unit providing advice on Assembly finance, budgets, taxation and interpreting statistics
- specialists providing advice on the Assembly, the constitution, UK and EU legislation, elections and referendums
- a Library providing a full range of reference and information services

# How do we support Assembly Members?

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- We provide research briefings and expertise to support Assembly Members in the scrutiny of legislation and policy
- We answer Assembly Members' enquiries connected with Assembly business and constituency work as part of our confidential and impartial enquiry service
- We provide research support to Assembly Members in developing and bringing forward proposals for legislation
- We publish a range of research briefings and publications including our blog, **In Brief**, to contribute to open and well informed debate.

This guide is written for an external audience.

**For more detailed information about access to our services Assembly Members and their staff should consult:**

**A Guide to the Research Service for Members and their Staff**

## What do we publish?

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Our publications are compiled principally for the benefit of Assembly Members, but we make these publicly available wherever possible via our **internet pages** and our blog, **In Brief**.

- Sign up to **In Brief** to receive email alerts about our latest blog posts and publications relevant to Assembly Business
- Follow us on  **@SeneddResearch**
- See the **interactive online maps** on our website, which enable you to make comparisons between Assembly constituencies and regions. We also provide static maps of constituencies and regions.

# What monitoring services do we provide?

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We publish a range of monitoring services on our website.

- **Legislative Consent Motions** which follow the progress of motions through which the Assembly can give or refuse permission for the UK Parliament to legislate on matters that are devolved.
- **Constitutional Developments** which provides links to key documents and proceedings relating to the development of devolution and the constitution in Wales.
- **The Silk Commission and Wales Act 2014** which provides links to all the key documents and proceedings relating to the work of the Commission on Devolution in Wales and the subsequent Wales Act 2014.
- **Key Events in the Development of the National Assembly for Wales** which provides a timeline to key events in the development of the Assembly.
- **The National Assembly for Wales and Devolution in Wales**  
A bibliography which gathers together some of the most important works charting the evolution of the Assembly and devolution in Wales.

## **Library**

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The Library delivers high quality information, reference and monitoring services to Assembly Members, their staff and Assembly staff. It has a comfortable modern reading room and provides access to official publications, reference books, newspapers, periodicals and electronic resources.

## **How you can help us**

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We do not deal with enquiries from the public. However, we do welcome receipt or notification of publications in both printed and electronic format which may be of interest to Assembly Members and research staff.

We welcome comments about our publications and would be interested to hear from researchers working in related fields of interest. We would also like to hear about conferences, seminars or other networking events which might be of interest to our researchers.

You can post or email your publications to us at the address listed on the inside cover of this booklet.





# Directory of Research Service specialists

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## Head of Research Service

**Kathryn Potter**

0300 200 **6587**

**[Kathryn.Potter@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Kathryn.Potter@Assembly.Wales)**

# Assembly and Constitution

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Providing specialist advice on the Assembly; devolution; the UK constitution; Welsh, UK and EU legislation; governance; subordinate legislation; elections; and referendums.

## Senior Research Officer

**Alys Thomas (Welsh Speaker)**

0300 200 **6305**

**[Alys.Thomas@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Alys.Thomas@Assembly.Wales)**

Assembly and Constitution.

## Higher Research Officer

**Joseph Champion**

0300 200 **7390**

**[Joe.Champion@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Joe.Champion@Assembly.Wales)**.

# Economy, Communities and Local Government

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Providing specialist advice on the economy; local government; housing; social justice; welfare; equal opportunities; voluntary sector; culture; sport and recreation; museums and libraries; Welsh language; public services; regeneration; and the European Union.

## Research Team Leader

**Ben Stokes**

0300 200 **6294**

**Ben.Stokes@Assembly.Wales**

Business; economic development; structural funds.

## Senior Research Officers

**Jonathan Baxter**

0300 200 **6295**

**Jonathan.Baxter@Assembly.Wales**

Housing policy; poverty; communities

**Hannah Johnson**

0300 200 **6297**

**Hannah.Johnson@Assembly.Wales**

Equalities; welfare; voluntary sector.

**Robin Wilkinson**

0300 200 **6298**

**Robin.Wilkinson@Assembly.Wales**

Culture; heritage; sport; the European Union; tourism;  
broadband; procurement.

**Osian Bowyer (Welsh Speaker)**

0300 200 **6296**

**Osian.Bowyer@Assembly.Wales**

Local Government and Welsh Language.

## **Higher Research Officers**

**Megan Jones (Welsh Speaker)**

0300 200 **7391**

**Megan.Jones@Assembly.Wales**

# Education and Lifelong Learning

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Providing specialist advice on children and young people; education and lifelong learning.

## Research Team Leader

**Anne Thomas**

0300 200 6303

**[Anne.Thomas@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Anne.Thomas@Assembly.Wales)**

Further and higher education; lifelong learning; skills training.

## Senior Research Officers

**Sian Thomas (Welsh Speaker)**

0300 200 6291

**[Sian.Thomas@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Sian.Thomas@Assembly.Wales)**

Education; children and young people.

**Michael Dauncey**

0300 200 6293

**[Michael.Dauncey@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Michael.Dauncey@Assembly.Wales)**

Education and lifelong learning.

## Higher Research Officer

**Sian Hughes**

0300 200 **6292**

**Sian.Hughes@Assembly.Wales**

Education and lifelong learning.

**Joseph Champion**

0300 200 **7390**

**Joe.Champion@Assembly.Wales.**

Education and lifelong learning and skills

# Environment and Transport

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Providing specialist advice on transport; energy; water policy; climate change; environment; sustainable development; planning; agriculture, food and forestry; marine and fisheries; and animal welfare.

## Research Team Leader

**Andrew Minnis**

0300 200 **6314**

**Andrew.Minnis@Assembly.Wales**

Transport; transport strategy; public transport; port and maritime transport; highways; road safety; and active travel.

## Senior Research Officers

**Chloe Corbyn**

0300 200 **6316**

**Chloe.Corbyn@Assembly.Wales**

Waste; climate change; sustainable development; and energy.

**Wendy Dodds**

0300 200 **6548**

**Wendy.Dodds@Assembly.Wales**

Marine and fisheries; nature conservation; animal health and welfare; designated landscapes and access; water; and flooding and coastal erosion

**Elfyn Henderson (Welsh Speaker)**

0300 200 6317

**[Elfyn.Henderson@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Elfyn.Henderson@Assembly.Wales)**

Land use planning; building regulation and control; water and sewerage; flooding and coastal erosion; and food and drink.

## **Higher Research Officers**

**Katy Orford**

0300 200 7174

**[Katy.Orford@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Katy.Orford@Assembly.Wales)**

Environment and transport

**Sean Evans**

0300 200 7330

**[Sean.Evans@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Sean.Evans@Assembly.Wales)**

Environment and transport

# Financial Scrutiny Unit

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Providing specialist advice on Assembly finance and budgets; taxation; local government finance; and general statistics including methods and sources.

## Research Team Leader

**Martin Jennings**

0300 200 **6306**

**[Martin.Jennings@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Martin.Jennings@Assembly.Wales)**

Budget scrutiny; finance; and policy costing.

## Senior Research Officers

**Christian Tipples**

0300 200 **7393**

**[Christian.Tipples@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Christian.Tipples@Assembly.Wales)**

Taxation and devolved finance.

**Helen Jones**

0300 200 **6309**

**[Helen.Jones@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Helen.Jones@Assembly.Wales)**

Legislative scrutiny; education finance; statistics; surveys and mapping.

**Owen Holzinger**

0300 200 7463

**Owen.Holzinger@Assembly.Wales**

Local government finance and budget scrutiny.

## Higher Research Officers

**Gareth David Thomas**

0300 200 6307

**GarethDavid.Thomas@Assembly.Wales**

Labour force; business rates; policy costing; general finance and statistics.

**David Millett**

0300 200 6311

**David.Millett@Assembly.Wales**

General statistics; infographics, general finance and mapping.

## Research Assistant

**Nigel Barwise**

0300 200 6315

**Nigel.Barwise@Assembly.Wales**

Research support; enquiries administration.

# Health and Social Policy

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Providing specialist advice on health policy and health services; social care and social services; children's health and wellbeing; older people; and community safety.

## Research Team Leader

**Sarah Hatherley**

0300 200 **6318**

**[Sarah.Hatherley@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Sarah.Hatherley@Assembly.Wales)**

Children's health and well-being and policing and criminal justice.

## Senior Research Officers

**Philippa Watkins**

0300 200 **6320**

**[Philippa.Watkins@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Philippa.Watkins@Assembly.Wales)**

Health policy and health services.

**Paul Worthington**

0300 200 **7387**

**[Paul.Worthington@Assembly.Wales](mailto:Paul.Worthington@Assembly.Wales)**

Health and social care policy and services.

**Stephen Boyce**

0300 200 6304

**Stephen.Boyce@Assembly.Wales**

**Mental health and social care.**

## **Higher Research Officer**

**Rebekah James**

0300 200 6321

**Rebekah.James@Assembly.Wales**

Health and social care.

# Library

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Providing a reference and information service including official publications; newspapers; periodicals; e-resources; and monitoring services.

## Head of Library

**Stephanie Wilson**

0300 200 **6299**

**Stephanie.Wilson@Assembly.Wales**

Library management; induction and training

## Reader Service Manager

**Delyth Thomas (Welsh Speaker)**

0300 200 **6326**

**Delyth.Thomas@Assembly.Wales**

Reader services; Advisernet; Justis Parliament; Assembly and Westminster proceedings.

## Research Librarian

**Gareth England (Welsh Speaker)**

0300 200 **6588**

**Gareth.England@Assembly.Wales**

Library catalogue; Assembly bibliography, key events timeline

## Information Specialists

### **Sian Davies (Welsh Speaker)**

0300 200 **6325**

**Sian.Davies@Assembly.Wales**

Book orders; Newsstand; GRANTfinder; funding and information sources.

### **Lucy Hodson**

0300 200 **6324**

**Lucy.Hodson@Assembly.Wales**

E-resources; newspapers; periodicals; inter-library loans; legal resources; WestLaw; Westminster business; company information.

### **Tom Douch**

0300 200 **6323**

**Thomas.Douch@Assembly.Wales**

Research publishing; internet and intranet development; and social media and blog development.

## Information Officers

### **Candice Boyes**

0300 200 **6302**

**Candice.Boyes@Assembly.Wales**

Research publishing; social media.

**Emma Bailey**

0300 200 **6327**

**Emma.Bailey@Assembly.Wales**

Book loans; renewals.