



Members' Research Service – A guide

What is the Members' Research Service?

The Members' Research Service (MRS) is part of the National Assembly for Wales. We are completely independent of the Welsh Assembly Government

We support all 60 Assembly Members in fulfilling their constituency, scrutiny and legislative functions by providing impartial research briefing, advice and Library services to support individual Members, their staff and Assembly committees.

MRS sits within the Assembly Business Directorate, which provides specialist parliamentary support to Members to ensure the efficient and effective conduct of business. The Directorate also consists of the Legislation and Chamber Service, Committee Service and the Parliamentary Translation and Reporting Service.

MRS consists of:

- three research teams providing specialist advice on specific areas of policy;
- a research team providing specialist finance and statistical information;
- the Members' Library, which provides a reference and information service;
- a Brussels office which provides advice, information and assistance on European Union issues.

How do we support Assembly Members?

- We provide research briefings to support Assembly Members in the scrutiny of legislation and policy.
- We answer enquiries connected with constituency work, Plenary or Committee business.
- We provide material for speeches, visits or media appearances.

Assembly Members can ask for:

- an answer to a specific question;
- detailed briefing on an area of policy or topic;
- a statistical or economic analysis;
- a literature review or critical analysis of existing research findings;
- direction and advice on the availability of information;
- access to a range of Library and electronic resources
- a small scale survey.



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What do we publish?

All our publications are compiled principally for the benefit of Assembly Members, but we make these publicly available wherever possible via our [website](#). We will do our best to provide alternative formats on request. Please note that the contents of briefings are not necessarily updated or amended to reflect changes subsequent to the date of publication.

Research Papers cover topics of current interest within the Assembly or provide regular briefing on selected subjects e.g. the progress of legislation or constituency profiles. They aim to be politically impartial and contain factual information as well as a range of opinions on each subject covered.

The broad areas covered by research papers are:

- Assembly, Constituencies and Governance
- Budgets and Finance
- Culture, Education and Equality
- Economic Development, Transport and Sustainability
- Europe
- Health, Welfare and Social Justice
- UK Government and Legislative process

Quick Guides give a short, succinct introduction to a variety of processes and concepts. Guides are available in the following areas:

- Assembly, Constituencies and Governance
- Budgets and Finance
- Economic Development, Transport and Sustainability (including Planning)
- Europe

Topic briefs are available on a wide variety of subjects of interest to Assembly Members. Each brief provides a short two page introduction to the subject as well as links to key documents.

The Members' Library

The Library provides information and reference services to Members, their staff and officials. It provides access to Assembly and official publications, statistics, general reference material, newspapers, periodicals and electronic information sources. The Library is not open to the public.

The National Assembly for Wales EU Office

The National Assembly for Wales established a presence in Brussels in November 2004 as a means of providing Assembly Members with early intelligence on key EU issues for Wales. The office is based in Wales House in the heart of the EU quarter, alongside the Welsh Assembly Government and



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other Welsh representations. We are currently recruiting to this post. In the meantime, please contact Kathryn Potter or Graham Winter.

How you can help us

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

We welcome comments about our publications and would be particularly 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.

These are our **contact details**, but please note that our researchers cannot advise members of the general public.

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Members' Library

Please send your publications in printed and electronic format to:

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