

Activity 3: Powers of the Senedd

The people who represent you at the Senedd, have powers to shape most areas of life in Wales. These areas are known as **devolved matters**. However, some areas that apply to all parts of the UK remain the responsibility of the UK Parliament and UK Government. These are **reserved matters**.

Look at the icons and circle those you think the Senedd and Welsh Government can make decisions about.



The Welsh Language



Media



Outer space



Policing



Health



Culture



Tourism



Highways and transport



Education



Nuclear Energy



Environment



Air transport



Defence



Sports



Housing



Farming

Making laws to shape Wales

Members of the Senedd discuss, check and make laws that shape life in Wales. Members of the Senedd meet in Plenary or smaller Committees to help improve the draft law over time.

In pairs or groups, discuss:

- Why do we need laws in society?
- What issues are most important to you as young people?
- What could improve your lives as young people living in Wales?

Notes:

Did you know?

Members of the Senedd consult with expert witnesses and often seek the opinion of different organisations and members of the public to help them form a new law for Wales.

Examples include:

- **Active Travel (Wales) Act:** requires local authorities to improve facilities and routes for pedestrians and cyclists, and consider their needs when planning new road schemes.
- **Human Transplantation (Wales) Act:** introduces a soft opt-out system for organ and tissue donation where consent is deemed as having been given, unless the deceased objected during their lifetime.
- **The Environmental Protection (Single Use Plastic Products) (Wales) Act:** makes it a criminal offence to supply certain single use plastic products, unless an exemption applies e.g plastic drink stirrers, plastic drinking straws etc.

