



Ein Cyf/Our Ref: WQ98998

Sarah Cooper-Lesadd MS
Sarah.Cooper-Lesadd-MS@senedd.wales

30 June 2026

Dear Sarah,

Please see my response below to your Written Question.

Sarah Cooper-Lesadd (Pen-y-bont Bro Morgannwg): *What assessment has the Cabinet Minister made of whether Wales has the statistical infrastructure necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of its major public programmes, and what plans does he have to consolidate fragmented datasets across the Government? WQ98998(e)*

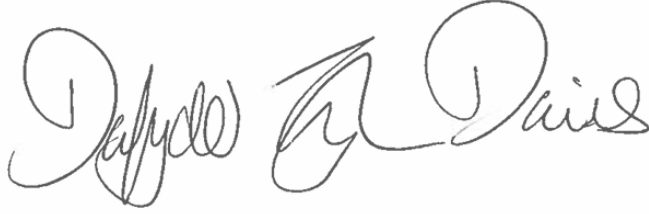
Dafydd Trystan Davies: *The Welsh Government has access to a broad range of statistical and administrative data sources to support policy development and evaluation. These include Welsh Government statistical collections, monitoring data from policy and regulatory bodies, and data held by the Office for National Statistics and other UK Government departments. In line with our commitment to transparency, much of this information is made publicly available via [StatsWales](#).*

Wales also benefits from a well-established and internationally recognised data infrastructure. This includes the [Secure Anonymised Information Linkage \(SAIL\) Databank](#) which enables secure, de-identified linkage and analysis of individual population level data (e.g. GP records, school attainment, and employed income). Combined with wider social and economic research this provides a robust foundation for evaluating the impact of major public programmes such as government-funded childcare, curriculum reform, and home energy efficiency.

UK Research and Innovation's [£26M reinvestment](#) in [Administrative Data Research \(ADR\) Wales](#) for 2026-31 will further strengthen these capabilities and enhance the availability and use of linked data for policy evaluation. There is a strong case for all UK Government departments to make relevant administrative data available through SAIL - building on the recent acquisition of HMRC data. We will continue to press for equivalent access from departments such as DWP, where this is not yet in place.

The Welsh Government also recognises the importance of improving the coherence and usability of data held across the public sector. As part of its 100-day plan, the Government has committed to commissioning a comprehensive audit of health data sources. This will provide the evidence base to inform future decisions on the consolidation of fragmented datasets.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dafydd Trystan Davies'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Dafydd' being more prominent and stylized than the last name 'Davies'.

Dafydd Trystan Davies AS/MS

Gweinidog Cabinet dros Effeithiolrwydd Llywodraeth a'r Cyfansoddiad
Cabinet Minister for Government Effectiveness & the Constitution