

FAO: Minister for Climate Change, Julie James MS
CC: Deputy Minister for Climate Change, Lee Waters MS

Dear Minister,

Climate Change and its Impact on Women's Rights

On 28th September 2022, Women's Equality Network Wales and the Women's Environmental Network held a [Feminist Green New Deal](#) workshop on the **impact of climate change on women's rights**.

Some core themes emerged in the discussion that we would like to draw to your attention:

- **Women are at the center of the climate crisis, as 80% of those displaced by climate change are women.** There is an urgent need to consider climate change and inequality together and ensure equal representation of women in developing policies and approaches to solving climate change.
- Climate change will cause more climate refugees who are, in most cases, women. It is therefore essential that **policies and proposals recognise and reflect climate refugees as part of the Welsh Government's commitment to being a Nation of Sanctuary.**
- The common factor between the climate crisis and inequality crises is that they both stem from prioritising profit above human needs. There is a need for governments to balance this relationship. Policies such as doughnut economics should be explored to ensure growth within planetary boundaries. **There should be a move away from profit-centred approaches toward people-centred approaches.**
- Marginalised women are more likely to be affected by climate change. **Engaging, educating, and empowering those affected at the grassroots level is necessary.** Policies and decisions made need to be inclusive of marginalised women. To get effective results, it is critical that we think globally and act locally.

We would like to meet with you to ascertain your views on how we can ensure women's needs and voices are included in decision-making on climate change, both in Wales and at a global level. We would be grateful if your office could contact Jessica Laimann at WEN Wales to arrange a suitable date for a meeting on jessica@wenwales.org.uk.

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Catherine Fookes'.

Catherine Fookes
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