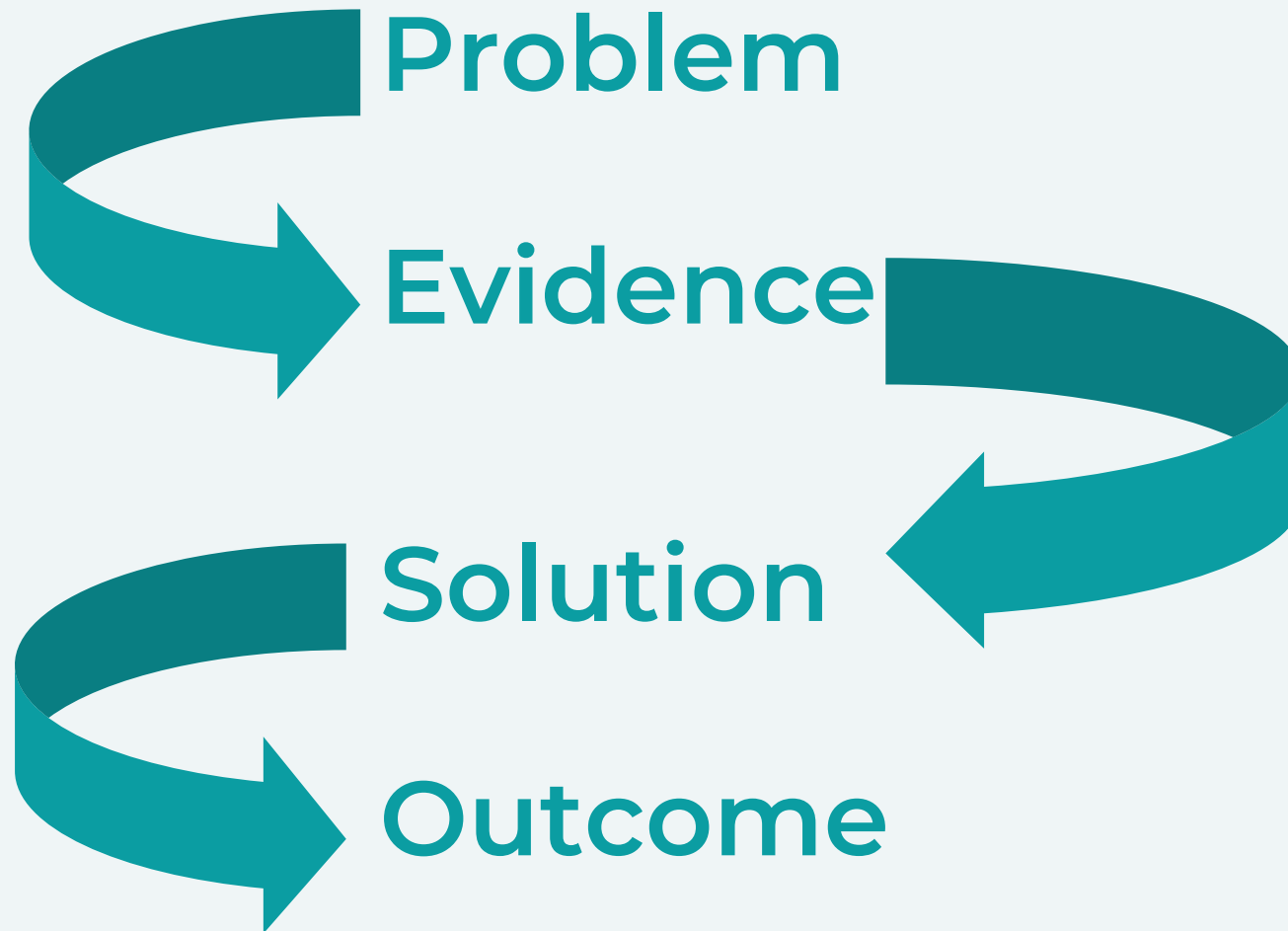


GIVING YOUR RESEARCH A VOICE IN THE SENEDD

Dr Sarah Morse
Knowledge Exchange Manager



Politics

Experiences

**Beliefs,
biases**

**Media
coverage**

Research

Traditions

Relationships

Ambitions

**Public
attitudes**

**Resources (time,
money, people)**

**Missing
pieces...?**

Problem

Evidence

Solution

Outcome

“If you build a reputation for what you say having substance to it, of having **reliable and credible evidence as well as powerful stories**, then people will be more inclined to listen to you”



Why engage?

- Do more with what you know
- Inform democratic debate
- Shaping and influencing decisions
- New perspectives, new research paths
- New contacts, more opportunities
- Demonstrate value of research





Welsh Government

**Welsh Parliament/
Senedd Cymru**



Devolved issues:

- Health
- Education
- Economic development
- Housing
- Agriculture
- Transport, & more

Decisions and laws affecting Wales

Reserved issues:

- Social security
- Most taxes
- Immigration
- Defence
- Employment law
- Trade



UK Government

**UK Parliament
(House of Commons & House of Lords)**



Welsh Parliament/ Senedd Cymru



- Members elected by citizens to represent them
- Checks and challenges the work of Welsh Government (scrutiny)
- Makes and changes laws (legislation)
- Debates the important issues of the day
- Enables Government to raise and spend money

Welsh Government



- Some Members of the Senedd are chosen to be Ministers
- Runs public departments and public services
- Spends public money
- Proposes laws to Senedd
- Accountable to the Senedd



Negotiating the two worlds

- Timescales
- Tone of communication
- Benefits and limitations of evidence
- Culture and professional norms



Engagement tips

1. Know your audience and policy context
2. Be visible and proactive
3. Make your research readable
4. Consider what you want to achieve
5. Be relevant and time it well
6. Be creative

<https://www.fasttrackimpact.com/i-want-to-influence-policy>



Opportunities for researchers to engage with the Senedd

- Committees – inquiries, legislation, budgets, Areas of Research Interest
- Senedd Research – fellowships, commissions, guest articles, PhD internships
- Individual Members of the Senedd and political parties
- Cross-party groups
- Petitions
- Events



Five things you can do next

1. **Sign up** to the Senedd's knowledge exchange network newsletter ([English](#) / [Welsh](#))
2. **Find out** what [Senedd committees](#) are looking at, respond to their [consultations](#), and sign up to their [Areas of Research Interest](#)
3. **Research** the political landscape – [recent](#) and [upcoming](#) political debates, [legislation](#), [petitions](#), [government commitments](#), and civil society campaigns
4. **Build** relationships – offer your expertise to committees and parliamentary researchers, reach out to [Members/cross-party groups](#)
5. **Apply** for fellowships, research commissions, and PhD internships when they are available.



Need advice?

Keep in touch!

knowledgeexchange@senedd.wales

Twitter: @SeneddResearch / @SeneddYmchwil

research.senedd.wales/knowledge-exchange
ymchwil.senedd.cymru/cyfnewid-gwybodaeth



Senedd Cymru
Welsh Parliament