

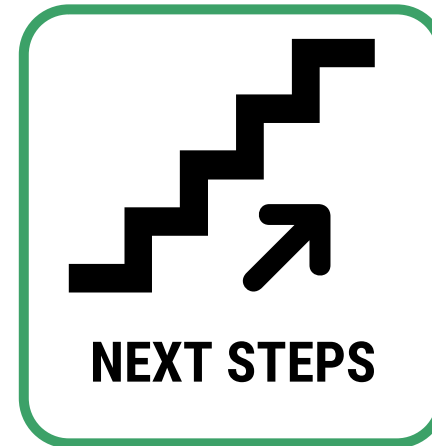
YOUNG WALES REPORT TO THE UNCRC

Presented by Arthur Isaac

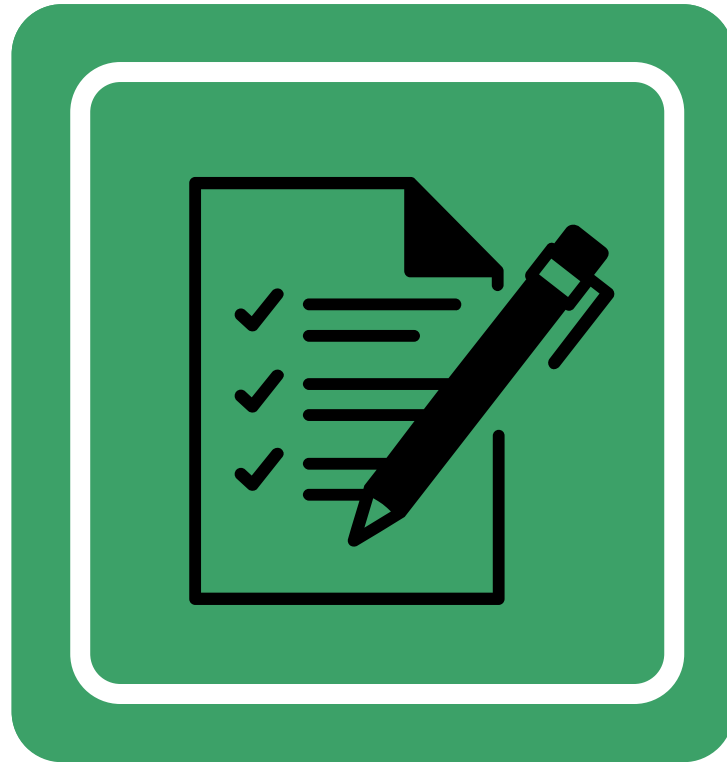
ABOUT

THE PROCESS

Every five years the United Nations Committee undertakes the periodic review of the UK. This assess how well the UK are doing with regard to upholding children's rights. A variety of organisations including Children in Wales are invited to submit evidence in the of reports, however a pre-session meeting also takes place where stakeholders, professionals, and young people are given the opportunity to elaborate on their points. Based on what they have read and heard throughout this process, the committee will form recommendations: steps that they feel the government and children's organisations can take to make rights a reality for all.



PROJECT TIMELINE



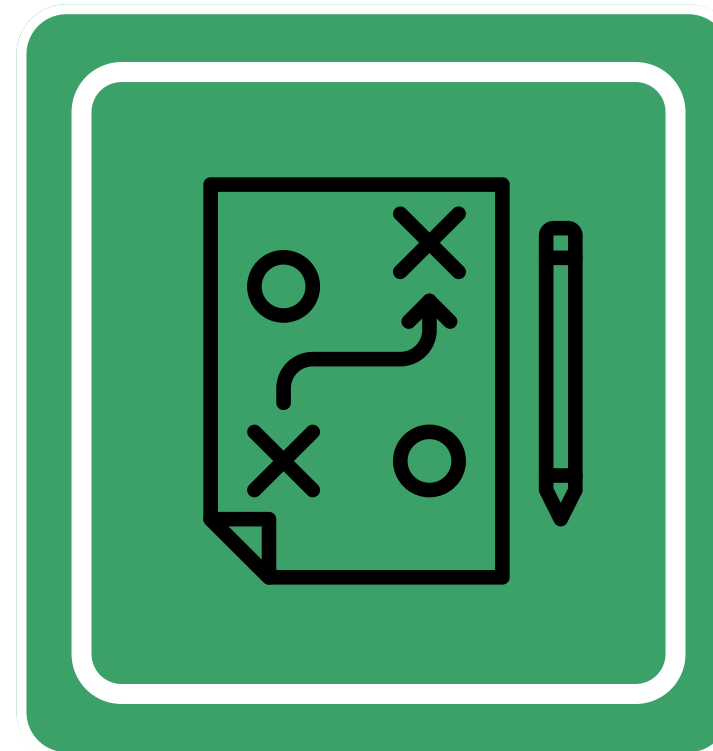
GATHER DATA

Used surveys and focus groups to find out about the issues affecting young people in Wales



ANALYSIS

Identified trends and themes within the data



UNDERSTAND

Related the data to our own experience, thinking about the connections and causes



REVIEW

Made suggestions to the team, and wrote sections of the report ourselves



PRIORITIES FROM THE DATA

01

COST OF LIVING

02

**MENTAL HEALTH
AND WELLBEING**

03

**ADDICTION AND
SUBSTANCE MISUSE**

04

**EQUALITY,
DIVERISTY, AND
INCLUSION**

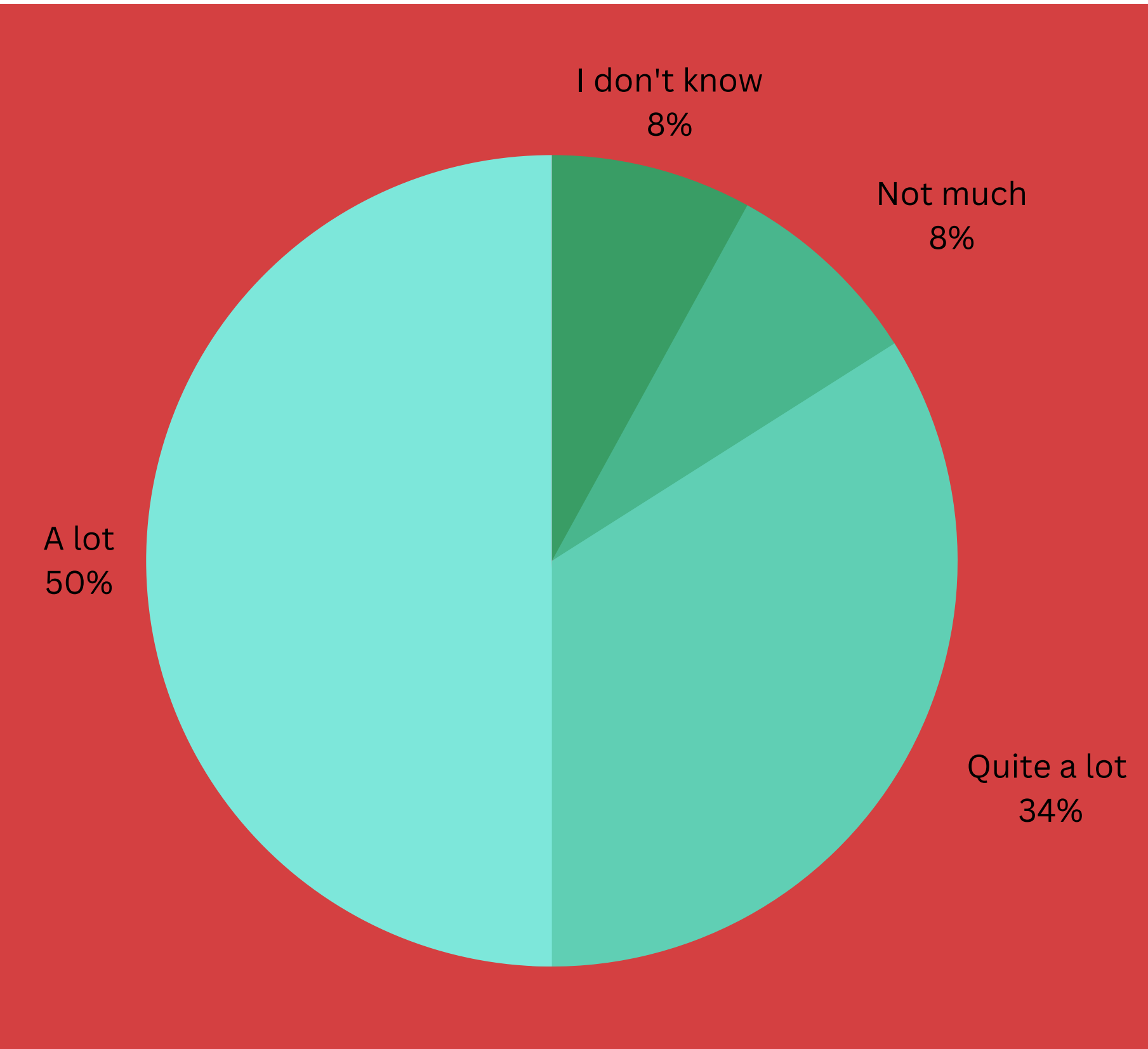
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**CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
AND
PARTICIPATION**

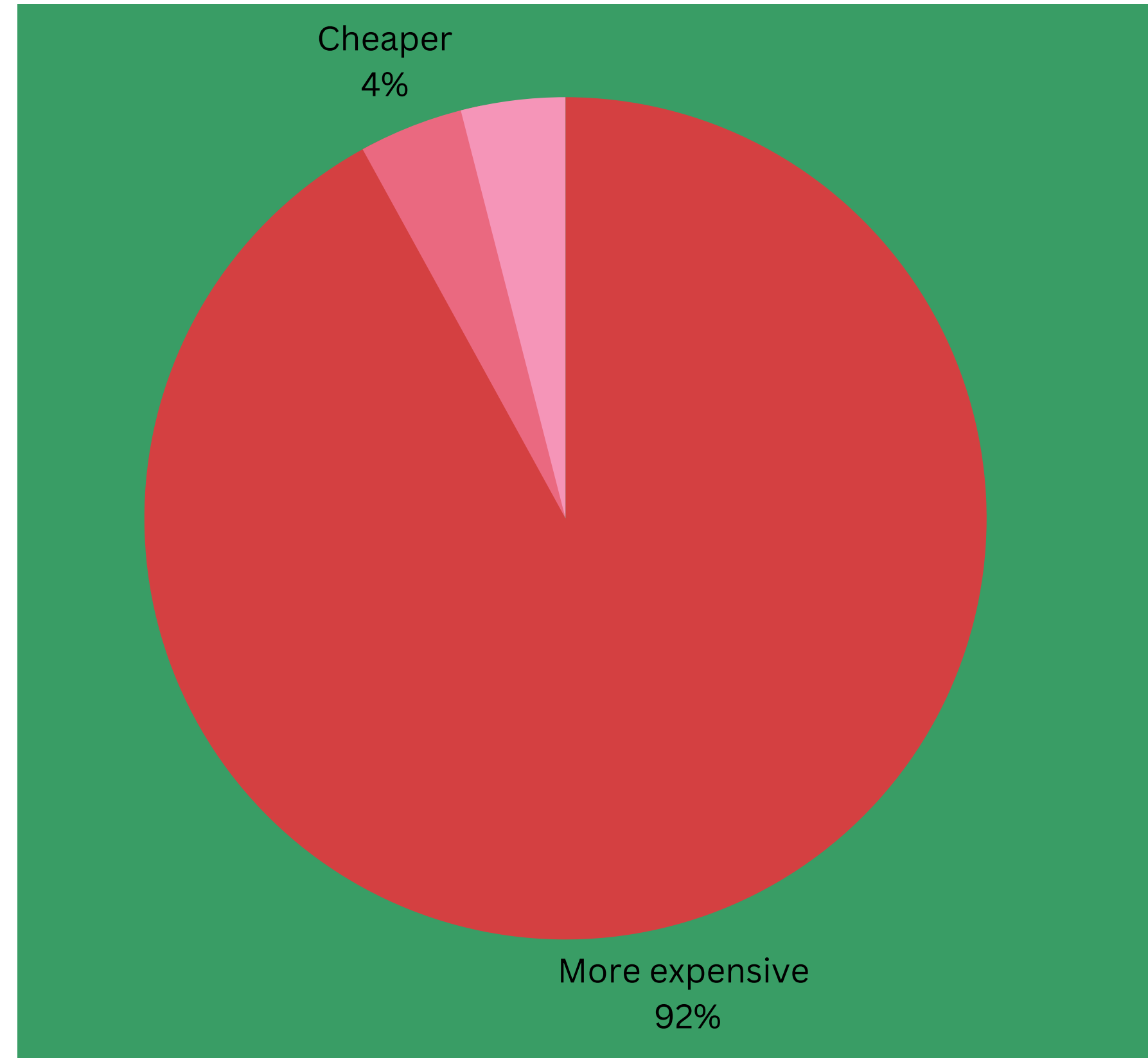
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EDUCATION

HOW MUCH DO YOU THINK THE COST OF LIVING AFFECTS YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING IN WALES?



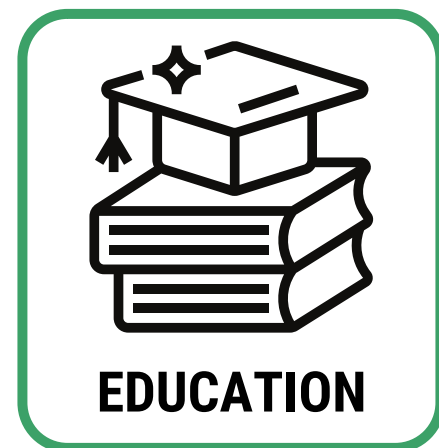
DO YOU THINK, IN GENERAL, THINGS ARE GETTING MORE EXPENSIVE OR CHEAPER NOWADAYS?



OVERARCHING THEME OF **CHILD POVERTY**

Cost of living came out as the top priority during our consultations with young people. This is intrinsically linked to poverty, where financial instability starts to have an impact on children's ability to claim their rights.

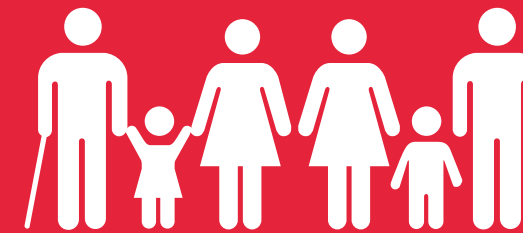
Poverty can be thought of as an EDI issue, as it causes a stark disparity between people, demographics, and locations. Within our report and presentation, we wanted to emphasise this relationship. As a central recommendation, we are keen for Welsh Government and other stakeholders to take an EDI approach when developing solutions and action plans to combat child poverty.



34%

of all children in Wales
currently live in poverty

**1 NO
POVERTY**



ALIGNING WITH THE UN'S
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS



OUR

RECCOMENDATIONS



COST OF LIVING

- Roll out of free school meals
- Free activities
- More financial support for those living in poverty
- Better standards of living

MENTAL HEALTH

- Increased levels of support and early intervention
- Increase visibility and normalise mental health
- Offer a wider range of services

ADDICTION

- More support for those already addicted
- Make drugs and substances "uncool" through awareness raising strategies

EDI

- Ensure young people feel safe by introducing more laws that protect us all
- Include EDI in the New Curriculum and teacher training

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

- Increase awareness activities and create resources
- Create more opportunities for young people to have a say

EDUCATION

- Improve awareness of the New Curriculum
- Make education more relevant to the real world
- Create a more accessible and inclusive environment

AN INSIGHT INTO

THE CHILDREN'S MEETING



The children's meeting is an opportunity for young delegates from all UK nations and overseas territories to meet and present their key points to the committee.

We were given a 5 minute slot where we chose to focus our attention on Cost of Living as well as Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion. Every member of the group presented a short paragraph on a specific area within the larger sub-topics.

Following the presentations from the delegations the committee asked questions, many of which were answered by young people from team Wales!

AN INSIGHT INTO **THE PRE-SESSION**

During the pre-session, experts in children's rights, advocates, and young people themselves take questions from the committee based on the evidence submitted. This helps to clarify certain points and gain a more holistic understanding of the state of children's rights in the UK.

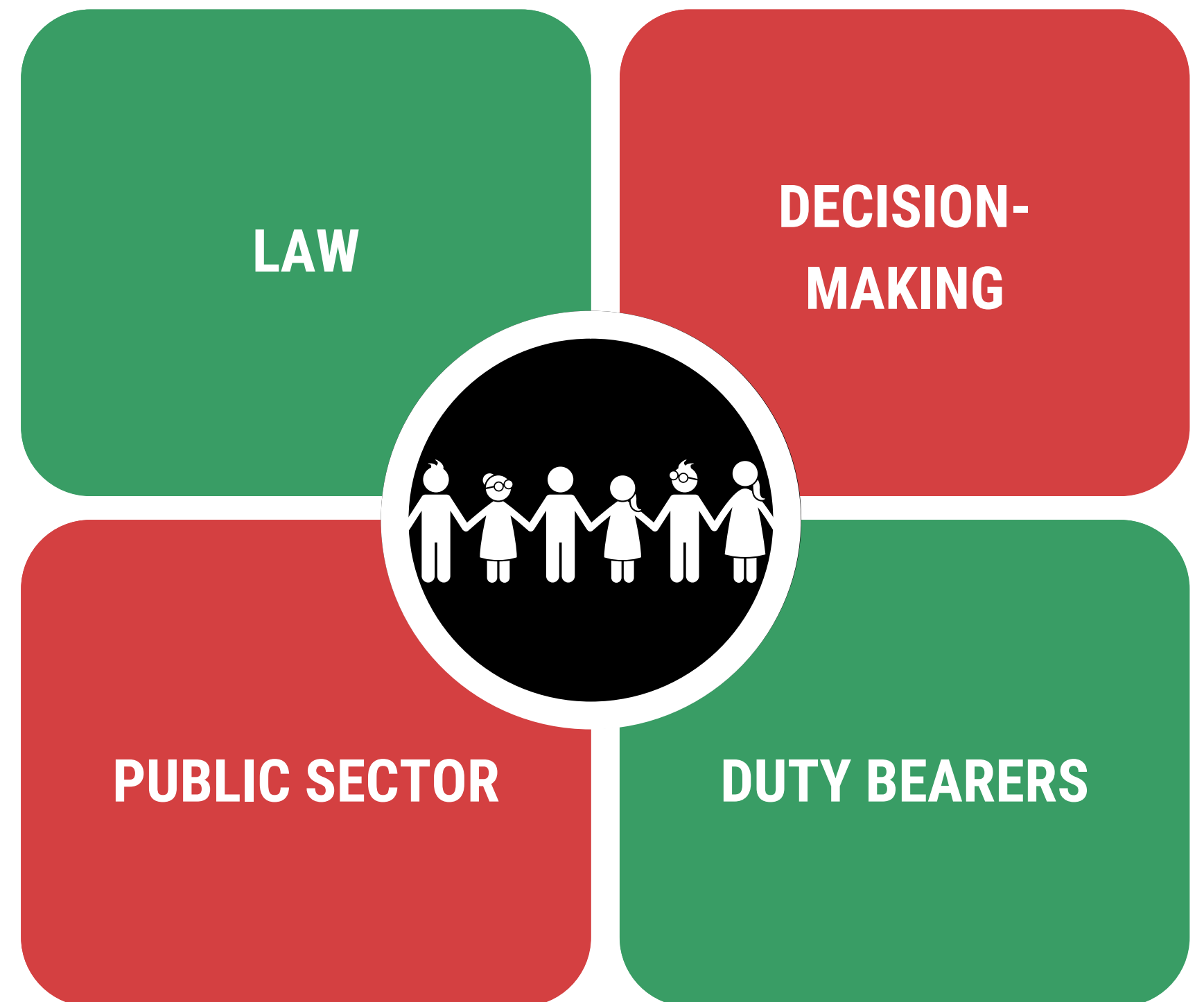
It also acts as a space for those in the meeting to shine a light on the issues most important to them, that they feel the committee should form a recommendation around.



CALL TO FULLY ADOPT **THE UNCRC IN WALES**

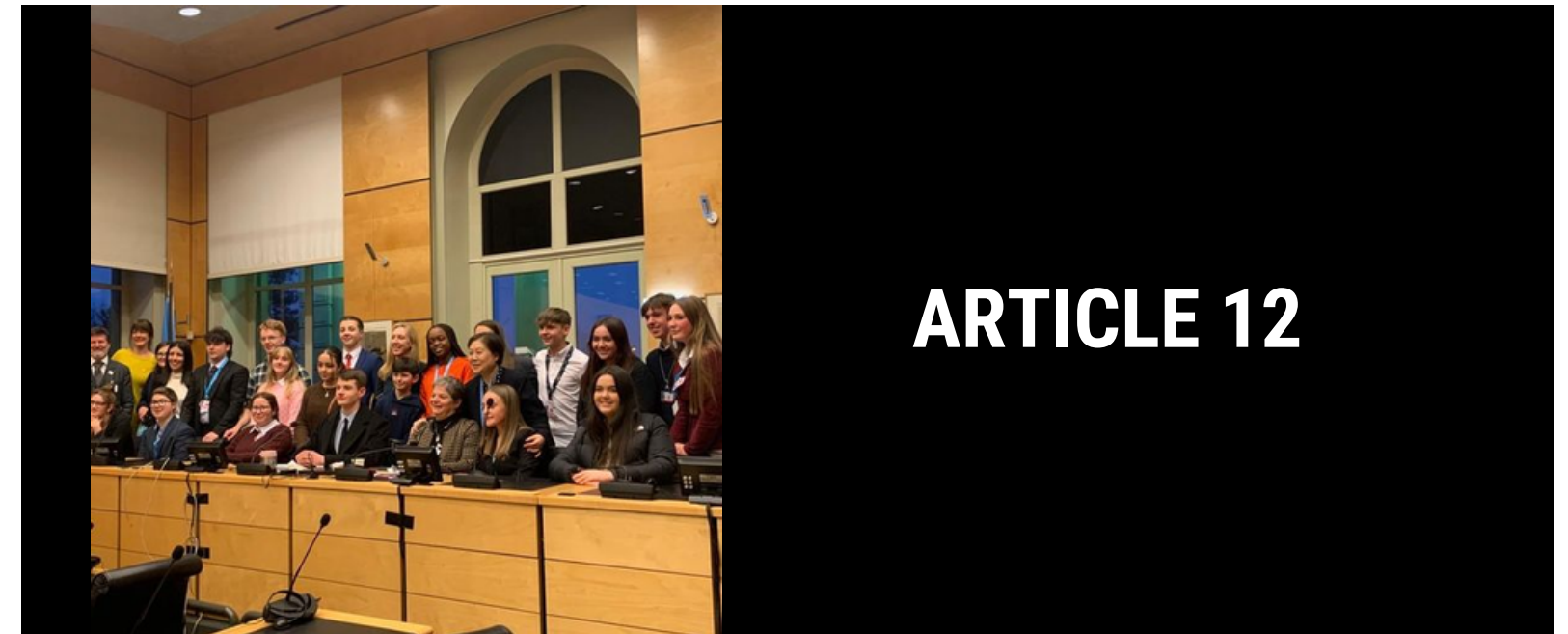
Here in Wales, we have taken some very important steps with regard to Children's Rights, such as the introducing the Children and Young Persons Measure in 2011 and the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act in 2015, however, we feel as though the next step is incorporate the UNCRC, enshrining the convention within law and policy making.

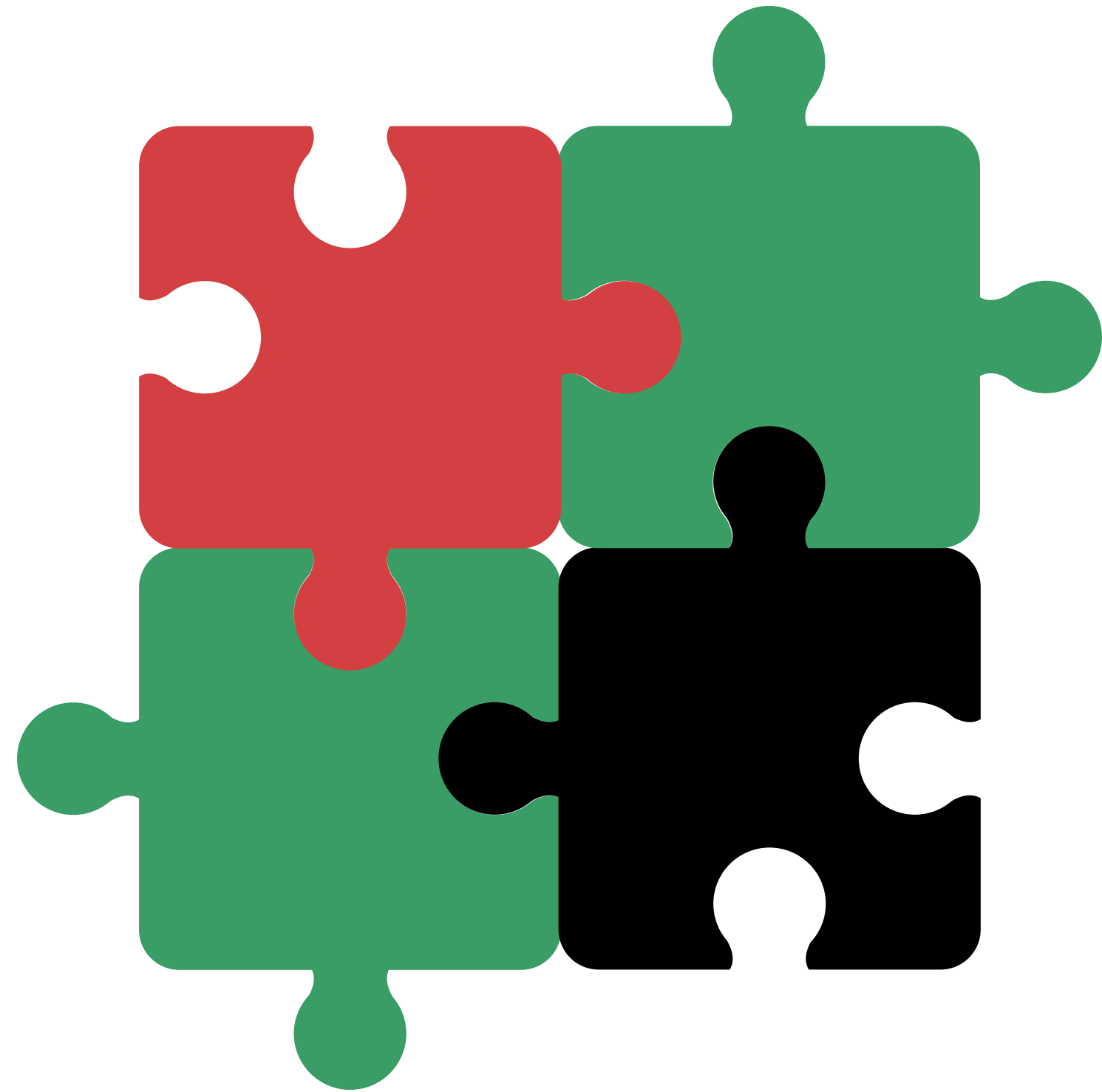
This was a major focal point within our presentation in the children's meeting, but also came up in discussions within the pre-session. The stakeholders and professionals in the room all strongly advocated for full incorporation for the whole of the UK, to ensure that all children are being given the same opportunities.



HAVING OUR **VOICES HEARD**

Under the UNCRC, children have the right to be heard in all matters affecting them; that's why it was vital for us to meaningfully included in this process.





OUR REFLECTIONS



"It was a once in a
lifetime opportunity" -
Charlie

"Children's rights are
relevant to so many
parts of our society" -
Arthur



THANK YOU

ANY QUESTIONS?