

Elise Fournier

JUNIOR COUNCIL OFFICER



CONTACT

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PROFILE

Politics and Public Policy graduate from Cardiff University with **2 years** of experience in local government and community engagement. Completed a **12-month** placement with Cardiff Council's Regeneration team and spent a year as a student councillor representing **4,000 students**. Comfortable writing policy briefings, supporting public consultations, and analysing service delivery data. Looking for a graduate officer or policy role in local government where I can contribute to improving public services and community outcomes.

EXPERIENCE

Jul 2024 – Jun 2025

Regeneration Team Placement Student, Cardiff Council, Cardiff

12-month sandwich year placement in the Economic Development and Regeneration directorate.

- Supported **3 public consultation exercises** on neighbourhood regeneration projects, helping collect and analyse **over 1,400 responses**
- Drafted **8 briefing papers** for cabinet members on topics including housing, transport, and community facilities
- Managed a database of **over 200 community stakeholders** and coordinated invitations to engagement events
- Analysed ward-level deprivation data using the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation, producing **4 summary reports** used in funding applications

Sep 2022 – Jun 2024

Customer Service Advisor (Part-Time), Tesco, Cardiff

Part-time role during university, working 15 to 20 hours per week on the customer service desk.

- Handled an average of **60 customer enquiries per shift** including returns, complaints, and Click+Collect orders
- Achieved a **97% positive feedback score** in the store's quarterly customer satisfaction survey

EDUCATION

Sep 2021 – Jul 2025

BA (Hons) Politics and Public Policy in Politics and Public Policy, Cardiff University, Cardiff

Graduated with First Class Honours (**70% average**). Dissertation on *the impact of participatory budgeting on civic engagement in Welsh local authorities*, graded **73%**.

- Relevant modules: Local Government and Governance, Public Policy Analysis, Research Methods, Welsh Politics, Urban Regeneration
- Dean's List in **2023 and 2024**

SKILLS

Policy Research and Analysis • Report and Briefing Writing • Public Consultation Support • Stakeholder Engagement • Data Analysis (Excel, SPSS) • Minute Taking • Database Management • Freedom of Information Requests • Microsoft Office Suite • Welsh Language (basic)

CERTIFICATIONS

Sep 2024 – Oct 2024

Introduction to Local Government (LGA eLearning), Local Government Association

Jul 2024 – Jul 2024

GDPR and Data Protection Awareness, Cardiff Council (in-house training)

LANGUAGES

English - Native • French - Intermediate • Welsh - Basic

PROJECTS

Sep 2024 – Apr 2025

Dissertation: Participatory Budgeting and Civic Engagement in Wales

Investigated whether participatory budgeting initiatives in Welsh local authorities increase civic engagement, particularly among underrepresented groups.

- Conducted a comparative case study of participatory budgeting in **3 Welsh local authorities** (Cardiff, Swansea, and Rhondda Cynon Taf)
- Analysed participation data from **over 5,000 votes** cast across 12 PB rounds and conducted **10 interviews** with council officers and community participants
- Found that PB increased participation from younger residents (**18 to 25 age group up by 34%**) but had limited impact on engagement from ethnic minority communities

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY

Sep 2023 – Jun 2024

Student Councillor, Cardiff University Students' Union

Elected councillor representing the School of Law and Politics on the SU Senate.

- Represented **over 4,000 students** and attended **monthly Senate meetings** to debate policy and allocate funding
- Co-authored a successful motion to increase mental health service funding by **£15,000**

Jan 2023 – Jun 2024

Volunteer, Citizens Advice Cardiff

Trained volunteer providing advice on housing, benefits, and consumer rights.

- Assisted with **over 40 client cases** across a 16-month period