

Agenda – Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee

Meeting Venue:	For further information contact:
Committee meeting via Zoom	Rhys Morgan
Meeting date: 3 December 2020	Committee Clerk
Meeting time: 09.30	0300 200 6565
	SeneddCWLC@senedd.wales

Pre-meeting registration (09:00 – 09:30)

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

2 Inquiry into who gets remembered in public spaces?

(09:30 – 10:20)

(Pages 1 – 12)

Gwilym Hughes, Deputy Director, CADW

Gaynor Legall, Chair of the Audit of Commemoration in Wales Task and Finish Group

Break (10:20 – 10:30)

3 Inquiry into who gets remembered in public spaces?

(10:30–11:10)

Hadassah Radway, Race Council Cymru

A representative of Black Lives Matter (To be confirmed)



Break (11:10 – 11:20)

4 Inquiry into who gets remembered in public spaces?

(11:20 – 12:00)

Richard Bingley, Save Our Statues

5 Paper(s) to note

5.1 Letter from the Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism

(Pages 13 – 15)

5.2 Letter from the Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism

(Pages 16 – 23)

6 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for the remainder of the meeting

7 Private Debrief

(12.00–12.15)

Document is Restricted

Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas MS
Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism

13 November 2020

Annwyl Dafydd,

I understand you have appointed Dr David Banner MBE; Garffild Lloyd Lewis; Helgard Krause; Siân Gale; Richie Turner and Phil Henfrey as Members of the Non-Executive Board for Creative Wales and Catryn Ramasut as Chair.

I would like to offer the Non-Executive Board my full support and I am sure they will be successful in raising the profile of Wales as a location in which creative industries thrive. However, I have received some inquiries, through the former Chair of the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee, Bethan Sayed MS, about the process by which the Board was appointed.

I would be grateful if you could outline where and when these positions were advertised and the selection process used to make the appointments? Those who have approached me have complained that they did not know the appointments were being made and had no information on how to apply for them.

Please can you provide this information by 20 November in order for me to inform our stakeholders who have inquired about this?

Yours sincerely,



Helen Mary Jones

Chair of the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee





Ein cyf/Our ref

Helen Mary Jones MS
Chair
Culture, Welsh Language and Communications
Committee

27 November 2020

Dear Helen,

Thank you for your letter of 13 November regarding Creative Wales' Non-Executive Board.

The purpose of the Creative Wales Board is to set the future direction for supporting and growing the creative industries sector in Wales. As part of the launch of Creative Wales in January 2020, we announced the call for applications to appoint a Chair and Non-Executive Members. These recent public appointments will provide a vital role in developing new ideas, gaining new insights into the industry, and identifying new opportunities for developing the sector.

A selection panel was appointed and chaired by the Director of Culture, Sport and Tourism, which included the Deputy Director, Creative Wales and an Independent Panel Member. As outlined in the application documentation, the essential criteria for the Chair and Board Members were:

- extensive experience of the commercial creative industries in Wales;
- in-depth insight into the issues facing the Welsh creative industries and ideas for growing the sector; and
- an understanding of the government / public sector economic development landscape.

In terms of the timeline for the recruitment process:

- 29th January - Creative Wales Non-Executive Board application process was announced as part of the launch for Creative Wales;
- 3rd February - the advertisement was published via our Public Appointments page www.gov.wales/publicappointments and on the Creative Wales website, social media and circulated to stakeholder contact lists;
- 28th February – closing date for applications. We received 30 applications;
- 23rd March – in response to the Covid-19 crisis the Welsh Government suspended all Appointment campaigns with immediate effect in line with other similar appointment

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We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

exercises. This was prior to sifting so all applicants were notified that we would hold their applications until ready to progress the sift;

- 26th August – panel convened to sift applications;
- 9th September – successful at sift stage – 10 applicants were invited to interview;
- 10th September – unsuccessful at sift stage – 20 letters issued and feedback provided where requested;
- 21st, 22nd and 23rd of September - interviews held;
- 6th October – appointment letters issued;
- 6th October – unsuccessful at interview – letters issued.

I hope that the information provided is sufficient, however, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Elis-Thomas'.

Yr Arglwydd Elis-Thomas AS/MS

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Diwylliant, Chwaraeon a Thwristiaeth
Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism

Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas MS

Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism

9 November 2020

Annwyl Dafydd,

At its most recent meeting on 5 November, the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee agreed that we would write to you for further information on a number of points which are detailed below.

Support for live music sector from Creative Wales

We have previously welcomed the substantial funding provided by Creative Wales to grassroots venues as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This has generally provided the sector with a vital lifeline during these challenging times. However, we heard that delays to distributing the funding allocations – particularly when music and hospitality venues have costs to cover now – may lead to businesses going bust in the interim.

We would be grateful if you could update us in your response on the current timescales for getting funding through to venues and whether there is scope to expedite this process. With this in mind we also ask whether any consideration has been given to sharing staff resource from the Economy team (who have the skills and experience in distributing grant funding) with Creative Wales on a time limited basis to meet the current demands being placed on Creative Wales funding?

Supplementary Budget 2020-21

In considering the Supplementary Budget 2020-21 we would welcome a response to the following:

- Sport Wales has an additional £12.5 million allocated to it, however the Sport and Leisure Recovery Fund (which we understood to be new money) was for £14 million. Would it be possible to clarify this discrepancy?
- We note that Cadw's capital budget has been reduced by £3.7 million – are you able to clarify the reasons for this reduction?



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- The new allocations for culture described in the Supplementary Budget equate to more than the £53 million Cultural Recovery Fund – would it be possible to clarify the reason for this?

In order to inform the work of the Committee I would be grateful if you could respond to these questions by 27 November.

Yours sincerely,



Helen Mary Jones

Chair of the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee





Ein cyf/Our ref DET/412/20

Helen Mary Jones MS
Chair
Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee

26 November 2020

Dear Helen,

Thank you for your letter of 9 November following the Committee's further meeting on 5 November in which you have requested further information on support for live music from Creative Wales and the Supplementary Budget 2020-21. I will respond to your points in the order you have raised them.

Support for live music sector from Creative Wales

Delays to distributing the Covid-19 support funding allocations – particularly when music and hospitality venues have costs to cover now – may lead to businesses going bust in the interim. Update on the current timescales for getting funding through to venues and whether there is scope to expedite this process.

Apart from a short delay when officials had to reflect the Chancellor's announcement on the extension of the Job Retention Scheme within each application - in line with the Welsh Government commitment to avoid double funding - offer letters started to issue to music venues during w/c 9 November and we hope to have supported all the prioritised businesses within the next two weeks.

Any consideration given to sharing staff resource from the Economy team (who have the skills and experience in distributing grant funding) with Creative Wales on a time limited basis to meet the current demands being placed on Creative Wales funding?

Officials from the Creative Wales team were part of the design and delivery team for the Economic Resilience Fund (ERF) and worked with colleagues in Business Wales to design the process for the Cultural Recovery Fund (CRF) along the same lines as the ERF. A number of officials across the four key areas within the CRF (creative, events, culture and heritage) worked previously on the Phase 1 and 2 of ERF and therefore had experience of the systems in place.

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Due to the high demand for the CRF officials had to build a prioritisation exercise into the fund (something that was not built into ERF) to ensure the funding reached those businesses that were seen as the most important in protecting the creative and cultural infrastructure into next year, in line with the overall aims of the fund.

Supplementary Budget 2020-21

Sport Wales has an additional £12.5 million allocated to it, however the Sport and Leisure Recovery Fund (which we understood to be new money) was for £14 million. Would it be possible to clarify this discrepancy?

The £14 million Sport and Leisure Recovery Fund is new money. A sum of £12.5 million has been allocated directly to Sport Wales and £1.5 million is being invested and ring-fenced for sports events through the Cultural Recovery Fund. The presentation in the Supplementary Budget is summarised as follows:

Delivery Area	BEL	£m
Sport Wales	5900	12.5
Support for Local Culture & Sport	6170	1.5
Total		14.0

The CRF has a four main strands covering heritage, creative, culture and events. Support for sport events has always been included in the eligibility for CRF and this additional funding allows us to provide more support for events to meet increased demand.


We note that Cadw’s capital budget has been reduced by £3.7 million – are you able to clarify the reasons for this reduction?

Cadw’s capital programme for this year was always very ambitious, with major projects to be delivered at King’s Gate, Caernarfon and at Caerphilly castle, as well as work at a number of other sites. It became clear early in the year that we would not be able to utilise all of the capital budget of £8.7m in this financial year, particularly with the impact of the pandemic. Funding of £3.7m was therefore returned to the centre early in the year, and is being made available next financial year in order to take all of this work forward towards completion.

The new allocations for culture described in the Supplementary Budget equate to more than the £53 million Cultural Recovery Fund – would it be possible to clarify the reason for this?

Overall the supplementary budget includes total additional funding of £67m (resource £64m & capital £3m) for the Cultural Recovery Fund £53m and the Sport and Leisure Recovery Fund £14m. As clarified, £1.5m will support sport events and is disclosed in the Local Culture and Sport BEL.

Yours sincerely,



Yr Arglwydd Elis-Thomas MS
Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism