

Jane Hutt AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Weinidog a'r Prif Chwip
Deputy Minister and Chief Whip



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

John Griffiths MS
Chair
Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

John.Griffiths@senedd.wales

8 December 2020

Dear John,

Following my attendance at Committee on 16 November to give evidence on **Covid-19 and its impact on the voluntary sector** I offered to provide additional information in two areas.

Further information from the Environmental Network of Third Sector organisations about encouraging the use of outdoor services in communities

I spoke about volunteering and the constraints of the pandemic for environmental third sector organisations. My officials are gathering information on organisations, supported under the Covid-19 Third Sector Response Fund, which are using the environment to offer services.

I am pleased to say that under our Voluntary Services Recovery Fund to date we have received four bids for support (one approved, three under assessment) totalling £185k. These projects will enable 78 volunteers to reach out and potentially support over 2,700 people through a range of activities, from growing food to adventure sports.

The data we have available from our Voluntary Services Emergency and Third Sector Resilience Funds does not allow us to provide the same level of information readily. Once this information is available I will provide a further update.

Further information about the Digital Confidence and Health and Wellbeing initiative

Digital Communities Wales: Digital Confidence, Health and Well-being (DCW) is designed to provide training and support to front line staff, volunteers and organisations (face to face) to engage with and develop digital skills of end users (citizens) to access services. In

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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.

response to the pandemic DCW moved from the traditional face to face (F2F) to telephone, email and, where appropriate, virtual support for organisations.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane', with a long horizontal stroke above the first letter.

Jane Hutt AS/MS

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