

Elin Jones AM  
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27 April 2018

Dear Elin

Thank you for your letter of 16 March, which the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee discussed at its meeting on 22 March.

### **The extent to which Brexit is likely to affect your Committee's work.**

Brexit is unlikely to have a major impact on the Committee's work. While EU funding has arisen as an issue in our Inquiry on the Historic Environment, it is fair to say that it has not so far been a major issue in the Committee's work overall.

EU funding programmes exist in many different policy areas and this includes a range of cultural programmes and in areas such as the Film Industry, on which we are currently conducting a Committee Inquiry. It is likely that the effects of removing or replacing these funding streams will need to be considered in due course but it seems likely that any consideration will be incidental to the Committee's normal work rather than a distinct addition to it.

Brexit may also have an impact on organisations such as the European Language Equality Network (ELEN), which promotes and represents European minority languages, including Welsh. However, this is a non-governmental organisation so the impacts on the work of the Committee are unlikely to be great. More generally, there may be impacts for the Welsh language on EU minority language policies but again these are difficult to quantify.

Overall, we would expect any Brexit related implications for the work of the Committee to be accommodated within our current resource and capacity levels.

### **Any other issues around Member and Committee capacity**

While we do not expect Brexit to have a significant impact on our time and resources, we believe any reduction in either our Committee capacity or the staffing resource available to us would place limits and constraints on our ability to undertake policy and legislative scrutiny of the Welsh Government, which should be the primary function of Assembly Committees.



The Committee trusts that this will be taken into account in any decisions made around Member or Committee capacity.

Yours sincerely

*Bethan Sayed.*

**Bethan Jenkins AM**  
Chair

