

Eluned Morgan MS

Minister for Mental Health, Wellbeing and the Welsh Language

28 January 2021

Dear Eluned,

### **Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee Legacy Report for the Fifth Senedd**

As the Fifth Senedd draws to a close, the Culture Welsh language and Communications Committee is undertaking an audit of the work done by the Committee.

It has been a busy and productive time for both the Committee and the Welsh Government, particularly given the considerable challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

To aid the Committee in its consideration of Legacy issues, the Committee is eager to receive an update from Welsh Government concerning the progress made in respect of the recommendations in the following reports:

#### **Supporting and promoting the Welsh Language**

Furthermore, the Committee would like to make you aware that it intends to recommend to the successor Committee that a revisiting of the issues raised within the following reports ought to be considered early in the Sixth Senedd:

#### **Brexit, the arts sector, creative industries, heritage and the Welsh language**

#### **'Achieving the Ambition': Inquiry into the Welsh Government's new Welsh Language Strategy**

#### **Committee inquiry into 'Welsh in a Digital World'**

The Committee had planned to carry out an inquiry into the issues arising from the rapid growth of digital technology and the specific challenges it poses for minority languages. Given that English is often the default language of new software and digital platforms, we planned to look at how the availability of digital interfaces in Welsh is affecting the growth of the language. Specifically, we planned to look at the delivery of the Welsh Government's **Welsh language technology action plan**.



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The timetable for this work was disrupted by the COVID-19 outbreak and our decision to focus our work on the effect of the pandemic on the organisations within our remit. Since resuming our work programme, you have published the Welsh Language Technology Action Plan Progress Report 2020, which addresses the majority of the terms of reference for the inquiry.

Please can you provide a breakdown of funding for each **current** and **new** workstream (where possible) and timescales agreed for development. I also understand Bangor University has recently proposed significant structural changes to academic and professional services within the organisation, which includes Canolfan Bedwyr. What concerns do you have in relation to the proposals, and what mitigation measures are in place to ensure workstreams are not impacted by the proposed restructure?

The summary will be accompanied by a recommendation for a future committee with the Welsh language remit in the Sixth Senedd to continue to investigate these issues.

The Committee looks forward to receiving an update at your earliest convenience and no later than 1 March 2021.

Yours sincerely,



Bethan Sayed MS,

Chair of the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee

