



Delyth Jewell  
Chair CCWLSIR Committee

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17 June 2024

Dear Delyth,

I am writing in response to your letter of 24 May regarding the Ireland Wales Ministerial Forum.

While previous forums have been held in autumn, we had sought to hold the 2024 Ministerial Forum in Cork in June. However, due to the UK general election taking place in July, this was postponed, and we are now actively seeking alternative dates for the 2024 forum.

While we wait for a new date to be confirmed, my officials continue to deliver the Shared Statement objectives and Joint Action Plan. An updated report, produced in collaboration with Irish Government officials, will be prepared ahead of the future forum. I am, however, pleased to share some elements that have progressed as a result of the Forum hosted in Wales in October 2023.

Promoting and safeguarding our respective languages was one of the key themes of the 2023 Forum and, as a result of the visit around the Ministerial Forum, further collaborative work has moved forward in shared learning. This has included a visit by officials to Udaras na Gaeltachta in Galway (facilitated by the Irish Government) to discuss economic development as linked to language planning and developments linked to the use of the common European Framework of Reference for language.

Officials have also recently visited Trinity College Dublin and the ADAPT centre to discuss Irish language technology, where they took part in a seminar organised by the Irish Government on Artificial Intelligence, as applied to language policy.

In March, M-SParc, along with members of the AgriTech.Wales cluster visited University College Dublin's Lyons Farm and Nova campus. M-SParc's visit was an agreed action from the Forum in October.

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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.

Finally, during the former Minister for Social Justice's visit to Dublin for St David's Day, she met with the Irish Government's Basic Income policy team to learn more about Ireland's approach to basic income, its support for arts practitioners and to share our approach on support for care leavers.

I will update you when there is a new date agreed for the Ministerial Forum.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

**VAUGHAN GETHING**