

**Pwyllgor Diwylliant, Cyfathrebu, y Gymraeg,  
Chwaraeon, a Chysylltiadau Rhyngwladol**

**Culture, Communications, Welsh Language,  
Sport, and International Relations  
Committee**

**Senedd Cymru**

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Niamh Smyth

Chair of the Oireachtas Committee on Tourism,

Culture, Arts, Sport and Media

22 October 2024

Dear Cathaoirleach,

**Joint Senedd Committee meeting with representatives from the Committee on Tourism,  
Culture, Arts, Sport and Media**

I write on behalf of the Senedd delegation which visited the Oireachtas recently to thank you and your fellow Members for supporting our visit. We were truly grateful to you for your time, and the welcome you gave us at our recent meeting with Senators Malcolm Byrne and Fintan Warfield.

Ireland and Wales share many cultural links – it is a connection which stretches back to the time of the saints. We are both nations that are profoundly proud of our traditions of song, poetry, and art. Preserving our cultural history, and supporting today's cultural sector and artists is of vital importance, and we as Members felt there was a great deal that linked our experiences. We also felt there was much we could learn from the Irish experience, including from your basic income pilot for artists, as well as how the Irish government has chosen to increase investment in the arts.

Since our initial visit to you last year, I welcome the fact that cooperation between our committees and parliaments has gone from strength to strength. We thank you for your continued engagement with, and support for, our work, and will continue to share information, evidence and experience with you.

We hope to meet you in person again in the near future. In the meantime, though, I would find it valuable if we could look to establish a regular schedule of virtual meetings between the two of us as



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committee Chairs. With your agreement, our teams in the Senedd would be delighted to make suitable arrangements for a meeting in the coming months.

Again, and on behalf of all Members of the delegation, I would like to thank you and your colleagues for your welcome and your time.

I have copied this letter to Senator Malcolm Byrne and Senator Fintan Warfield. I have also copied this letter to Paul Davies MS, Chair of the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee, and Llyr Gruffydd MS, Chair of the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee as their Committees were represented on this visit.

Yours sincerely, a gyda diolch,



Delyth Jewell MS  
Committee Chair

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English

CC: Senator Malcolm Byrne, Oireachtas Committee on Tourism, Culture, Arts, Sport and Media  
Senator Fintan Warfield, Oireachtas Committee on Tourism, Culture, Arts, Sport and Media  
Paul Davies MS, Chair of the Senedd's Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee  
Llyr Gruffydd MS, Chair of the Senedd's Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee