

Dawn Bowden AS/MS
Dirprwy Weinidog y Celfyddydau, Chwaraeon a Thwristiaeth
Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref MA-DM-2949-23

Delyth Jewell MS
Chair
Culture, Communication, Welsh Language, International Relations and Sport Committee

17 January 2024

Dear Delyth,

Thank you for the Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and International Relations Committee's report on 'Behind the scenes: The creative industries workforce', and for your agreement to extend the deadline for submission of our response. I am pleased to enclose a copy of the Welsh Government's written response to the above report.

A number of the recommendations call for action across sub-sectors within the remit of both Creative Wales and the Culture Division, including through the Arts Council of Wales. These include recommendations that cover both the creative industries as supported by Creative Wales and the cultural sectors, calling for action through the Culture Strategy. Where this is the case we have sought to separately explain the differing positions across these departments and bodies.

The Culture Strategy now exists in draft form and has recently been tested with trusted partners. The 2024/25 budget is extremely challenging, and we are currently considering the potential implications of this for our creative industries and cultural sectors. I am in discussion with the Designated Member about the most appropriate timing for publication of the strategy and about how any budget cuts may have consequences for our ambitions in the short term.

The Welsh Government has undertaken a reprioritisation exercise following the announcement of the Autumn statement to release funding from within portfolios for reallocation across Government due to the increased pressure on the Welsh Government budget and public services in Wales. On the Culture Strategy, you will be aware that we are now at a stage where we have a revised draft strategy and a draft implementation plan. Obviously as a result of the budget settlement, we need to consider the implications of these cuts on the development of the Culture Strategy.

Yours sincerely,

Dawn Bowden AS/MS
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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.