



Eich cyf/Your ref MA-P/KS/7328/16
Ein cyf/Our ref

Bethan Jenkins AM
Chair
Culture, Welsh language and Communications Committee

08 November 2016

Dear Bethan

Thank you for your letter of 19 October regarding Historic Wales.

I have not made a decision on the constitution of Historic Wales. The PwC report, *Investing in the Future to Protect the Past*, sets out four main options for consideration. Included as part of these options is the possibility of Cadw becoming a Welsh Government Sponsored Body or an Executive Agency.

As requested, I attach a copy of the letter that I sent to the President of Amgueddfa Cymru, Elisabeth Elias.

Yours sincerely

Ken Skates AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a'r Seilwaith
Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure

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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.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref KS/06718/16

Elisabeth Elias
President
Amgueddfa Cymru

David.Anderson@museumwales.ac.uk

24 October 2016

Dear Elisabeth,

Thank you for your letter of 30 September.

Our manifesto set out the commitment to create 'Historic Wales', bringing together many of the commercial functions of the Welsh Government's Historic Environment Service, Cadw, and Amgueddfa Cymru. I did not, therefore, specifically mention the Royal Commission and National Library in my announcement. Publishing the PwC report and establishing the steering group are the first steps in realising this vision.

I have not made any decisions on the constitution, scope or function of Historic Wales. Yet, as I recently stated in the Senedd, I do not believe that the status quo is an option. Change is necessary if our national institutions are to have a prosperous and sustainable future.

Amgueddfa Cymru was part of the task and finish group that considered the PwC report and is a member of the current steering group. It will have every opportunity to contribute to the advice that I have requested. I shall leave the Chair to decide on the best way for the steering group to take this work forward.

With regard to your questions on the governance, structure and legal status of Historic Wales, I do not wish to pre-empt the advice of the steering group, which, I am sure, will thoroughly consider these matters.

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This will be a complex and challenging undertaking. I am convinced, however, that it is essential if we are to continue to act as effective custodians of our outstanding heritage and provide an outstanding visitor experience.

I look forward to working constructively with Amgueddfa Cymru to achieve those aims.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken', with a stylized flourish above the 'n'.

Ken Skates AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a'r Seilwaith
Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure