

## **Information Further to Ministerial Answers**

### **Information further to the debate on the report of the Communities and Culture Committee issued by Alun Ffred Jones, the Minister for Heritage, on 23 November 2009**

**To Janice Gregory:**

#### **Promoting the Arts of Wales on a World Stage**

I undertook, during the plenary debate on 11 November, to provide you with information relating to the implementation of Recommendations 1, 8 and 10 of the above report.

You will recall that I accepted Recommendation 1 in full; Recommendation 8 in part only; and Recommendation 10 in full. The information I am providing reflects this.

#### **Recommendation 1**

You have asked me to provide the timetable envisaged for a review to be undertaken of the Welsh Assembly Government's international framework. I have referred to the First Minister's officials, as this work falls within the remit of his Office. It is the intention of the European and External Affairs team to put advice to the new First Minister early in the New Year.

#### **Recommendation 8**

You asked for timescales on the development of a Translators' House in Wales. The Arts Council of Wales included this recommendation in their Artform Literature strategy; and as I reported to you in my response to the Committee's report, the first step has been achieved through the establishment of the Welsh Literature Exchange, in partnership with Ty Newydd and Academi. As to the further development of the Translators' House, I understand that a business plan, based on a partnership between the Wales Literature Exchange and Ty Newydd, is to be submitted to the current Investment Review being conducted by the Arts Council of Wales, which involves ACW taking a root-and-branch look at its current portfolio of revenue-funded organisations with a view to the streamlining of this portfolio, with effect from 2011-12. As an example of projects that are already being undertaken, a Translators' House workshop is running from 30 November to 4 December and will involve three translators from India, who will discuss the translation of some anthologies of Welsh fiction into the Bengali, Tamil and Malayalam languages.

#### **Recommendation 10**

You requested a timetable for work to be taken forward by the Arts Council of Wales and Wales Arts International on proactive marketing of their services to engage arts practitioners at the coalface. WAI and ACW officers have held preliminary discussions about the improved development of their website presence. ACW are developing a new communications plan between December 2009 and January 2010, for approval in January 2010, after which the new site build will commence. In tandem, WAI will be developing its own communications plan, in discussion with ACW and Assembly Government officials. Additionally, as part of the partnership agreement between the British Council and WAI, their communications plans is to be refreshed to deliver maximum effectiveness of resources and networks.

I hope this information is helpful. I will, of course, write to you in due course to report against progress in implementing all the agreed, or partly agreed, recommendations.