

Dafydd Elis-Thomas MS
Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism
Welsh Government

18 June 2020

Dear Dafydd,

Recent events have highlighted the need for an open discussion about the way historical figures are remembered in Wales' significant public spaces.

The Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee has agreed to carry out work on this topic. In order to have a better understanding of the nature of this issue it would be useful to have an inventory of statues in public spaces.

The Committee will be looking at who we choose to honour. The Committee is interested in establishing some guiding principles for public bodies on how to make balanced judgements when deciding whether it is appropriate to continue displaying certain figures.

I appreciate your officials are currently working to support businesses and individuals affected by the COVID 19 lockdown. I do not wish to detract from this important work. However, the need for a debate about who is represented in our shared spaces is also growing more urgent.

Can you inform us whether there is an inventory or alternatively whether you will be seeking an inventory or what steps are already being taken to establish an inventory and by whom? I will also be writing to the Royal Commission on the



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Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales and the Welsh Local Government Association for any information they hold.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Mary Jones." The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Helen Mary Jones

Chair of the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee

