

Mr Huw Jones
Chair
S4C Authority
Parc Ty Glas
Llanishen
Cardiff
CF14 5DU

23 February 2017

Dear Huw,

The Big Picture – The Committee’s Initial Views on Broadcasting in Wales

You will be aware that the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee recently published a report setting out our initial views on broadcasting and the media in Wales.

The report made a number of recommendations and although none of these were made directly to S4C a number of them were of relevance to the channel. These are set out below:

‘Recommendation 6. We recommend that there should be no further cuts to S4C’s funding until the planned review has been completed and there has been an opportunity for reflection on its conclusions by all those with a stake in the future of S4C.’

‘Recommendation 7. We recommend that the National Assembly should agree that the S4C Authority should lay before the Assembly annual reports and audited statements of accounts.’

‘Recommendation 8. We recommend that the UK Government and Ofcom consider amending Ofcom’s Code of Practice for EPG providers to ensure that S4C receives greater prominence in Wales on Electronic Programme Guides and smart TV applications, such as the BBC’s i-player.’

Although we appreciate that these recommendations do not call for direct action from S4C it would be helpful if you could let me have your views on these recommendations. If so, I would be grateful if you could do so by close of play on 13 March 2017, in time for the Assembly’s debate, both on the report and the Welsh Government response to it.

On recommendation 7, I understand from your letter of 24 October 2016 that S4C is content to lay its annual reports and audited statements of accounts before the Assembly. The remaining direct action therefore is for the Assembly itself to pass a resolution giving this effect.



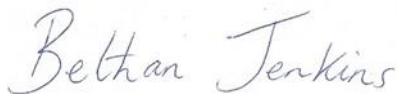
To this end, when the Assembly debates the Committee's report, it will be on a motion in the following terms:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

- 1. Notes the report of the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee, 'The Big Picture - The Committee's Initial views on Broadcasting in Wales', which was laid in the Table Office on 1 February 2017; and*
- 2. Agrees that S4C, having accepted the committee's recommendation to this effect, should lay before the Assembly annual reports and audited statements of accounts.*

I assume that S4C is content with this. However, please let me know if you have any concerns.

Yours sincerely,



Bethan Jenkins AM

Chair

