

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

24 May 2017

Dear Huw

The Future of S4C

Thank you to you and Ian Jones for attending the Committee's meeting last week and for answering Members questions. Unfortunately, time didn't allow us to ask all the questions that we intended and I indicated that I would write to you with these questions.

Economic and cultural impact of S4C

Could you give us an indication of how S4C's vision for the future could further wider public policy objectives in Wales, including the Welsh Government's aim for 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050. Could the Welsh Government do more to support the channel in this regard?

Activity to promote life-long learning has been described by S4C as "piecemeal", and that in future the channel will "take a more holistic and deliberate approach". Can they expand on what changes this new approach will involve?

The Minister for Lifelong Learning and the Welsh language told the Committee that S4C could "do more" to support skills development. Do you have any plans in this regard?

Can you provide more information on how S4C ensures that the economic benefits of its commissions are spread equitably across the sector?

What discussions has S4C had with the Welsh Government about the channel's involvement in the Welsh Government's Creative Wales body?

Whether (as was suggested to us by TAC) commissioning for a digital world requires a reconsideration of rights issues?

What is your response to Ron Jones of Tinopolis's suggestion that S4C should retain rights for Welsh language material it commissions and then make this content freely available?



Relationship with the BBC and wider collaboration

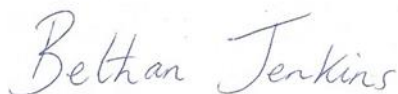
The Minister for Lifelong Learning and the Welsh language has called for the partnership between S4C and the BBC to be “updated and renewed to support and enable the growth and diversification of S4C’s services in a multi-platform world”. What work is ongoing in this regard?

The Minister has also called for S4C to “strengthen existing ties with organisation such as the Arts Council, the Welsh Books Council and other partners”. What plans does the channel have in this regard? How could the Welsh Government help with this?

The Minister has called on S4C to “ensure that it commissions more programming based on intellectual property from and about Wales and that it builds a converged multi-platform offering around that IP in partnership with others”. What plans does the station have to do this? What support would they need from other stakeholders to bring this about?

I would be grateful for a reply at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,



Bethan Jenkins AM
Chair

