

David Anderson
Director General
National Museum Wales

Dyddiad | Date: 26 November 2021

Pwnc | Subject: **Further information on the work of the National Museum Wales**

Dear David,

Thank you for attending the meeting of the Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport and International Relations Committee on 10 November 2021. During the meeting you agreed to provide further information on the following issues.

Key performance indicators

Please can you provide an update on the discussions you have had with the Welsh Government to ensure the key performance indicators reflect the ways in which the Museum is now working? For instance, is the growth in digital engagement reflected? Has the emphasis on visitor numbers and income generated been altered?

During the meeting you spoke of the work the Museum has been doing to integrate arts and culture with health and social care as well as education. You gave the example of making artworks accessible to health care settings. Please can you provide the Committee with other examples of the work you did during the COVID-19 pandemic to make the collections more accessible? How will this continue? Are you negotiating with the Welsh Government to reflect this work in your key performance indicators? If so, how will you be measuring this?

Strategy

You mentioned that the Museum is drafting a strategy which will set direction until 2030. I would be grateful if you could let the Committee know when you plan to publish this strategy and which other organisations and individuals you have consulted in drawing it up.

Widening Access Reports

In response to the comments in the report by the Welsh Arts Anti-Racist Union (WAARU) that 'Welsh language policies in current applications can exclude Black and non-Black people of colour', you say that you do not agree with those comments and you 'continue to support the Welsh language and act according to Welsh language standards'.

Of the three reports, your website says that you 'welcome the findings within these studies'. However, in your letter to the Committee of 27 August, you go on to say 'We welcome these three reports but are yet to accept or reject any of the recommendations within them'. Is it possible to update the information on these reports on your website to reflect the nuance expressed in your letter to the Committee, and say that you are developing an action plan in response to the recommendations?

With regard to the action plan, which you are working on with the Arts Council of Wales and the Welsh Government, could you please tell us whether it will address the concerns of those who feel excluded by the current recruitment procedures which include requirements to speak Welsh, as well as how this will be balanced with the requirements of Welsh language standards?

Are you able to tell the Committee when the plan will be published? What has been the role of the Welsh Government in developing and agreeing the plan?

Financial matters

In advance of the Committee's scrutiny of the Draft Welsh Government Budget 2022-23, it would be useful to have an update on the financial position of National Museum Wales, including revenue and capital requirements. Please can you also provide update on the redevelopment of the National Slate Museum? Please can you set out any funding commitments which have been made to support this by Welsh Government?

Finally, you very kindly invited the Committee to visit one of the Museum's sites. Members would be delighted to visit the National Slate Museum when we visit North Wales in February. In order to inform the work of the Committee, we would be grateful for a reply by 22 December 2021.

Yours sincerely,



Delyth Jewell MS

Chair

Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport and International Relations Committee



**Senedd Cymru
Welsh Parliament**