

**Written response by the Welsh Government to recommendations made by Culture Communications Welsh Language Sport and International Relations Committee Report - Pre-appointment hearing: The preferred candidate for the Chair of Sport Wales – Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson DBE DL**

Following a Public Appointments campaign for Chair – Sport Wales, the preferred candidate was **Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson**

The preferred candidates of significant appointments such as Chairs are subject to a pre-appointment hearing. The pre-appointment hearing with Baroness Thompson was held in March 2022 and she was endorsed as the successful candidate.

The Committee made the following recommendations and the Welsh Government's response can be found below:

Recommendation 1: The Committee recommends that Baroness Grey-Thompson is appointed as Chair of Sport Wales.

Welsh Government response: Accept.

We are grateful to the Committee for its pre-appointment scrutiny of the preferred candidate and for the prompt publication of its report. We are pleased Baroness Grey-Thompson has now been confirmed as the new Chair of Sport Wales. Her 3-year term will commence on 4 July 2022.

Recommendation 2: The Committee recommends that consideration be given to ensuring an informal meeting with this Committee takes place early and throughout the tenure of the Chair of Sport Wales.

Welsh Government response: Accept.

We agree it would be beneficial for the Committee to have an informal meeting with the new Chair of Sport Wales at the earliest opportunity, along with any further meetings, as appropriate, throughout her tenure.

Recommendation 3. The Committee recommends that the Welsh Government consider what further steps it can take to increase the ethnic diversity of candidates for public appointments.

Welsh Government response: Accept.

Sport Wales has made positive progress in recent years to improve the diversity of its Board membership. We agree, however, that more needs to be done to improve the diversity of candidates across all Welsh public appointments. The Welsh Government's Public Bodies Unit continues to take forward work in this regard through its [Diversity and Inclusion Strategy for Public Appointments](#), and would be happy to provide a factual briefing for the Committee on the steps it is taking.