Dawn Bowden AS/MS Dirprwy Weinidog y Celfyddydau a Chwaraeon, a'r Prif Chwip Deputy Minister for Arts and Sport, and Chief Whip



Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1282 Ein cyf/Our ref DB/00272/22 Jack Sargeant MS Chair - Petitions committee Senedd Cymru Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1SN

19 May 2022

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your correspondence of 6 May about petition P-06-1282 and the establishment of a National Poetry Library of Wales. Wales is synonymous with lyricism and verse and the Welsh Government supports every effort to continue that tradition.

I met with a delegation headed up by Mr Ben Gwalchmai to discuss this proposal earlier this year. The delegation identified poetry as a key feature of Welsh cultural life. The initiative's key driver would be community work and the library would be a way of introducing poetry, literature and narrative to people from backgrounds who wouldn't normally encounter poetry.

As the project had the potential to address a number of objectives in the Welsh Government's Programme for Government, I asked Mr Gwalchmai and his delegation to work up a proposal for a National Library of Wales and submit to officials for further discussions. My officials have not yet received the proposal.

Yours sincerely

Dawn Bowden AS/MS

Dirprwy Weinidog y Celfyddydau a Chwaraeon, a'r Prif Chwip Deputy Minister for Arts and Sport, and Chief Whip

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