

Cross-Party Group Annual Report 2021-22

Cross Party Group on Wales International

1. Group membership and office holders:

Heledd Fychan MS - Chair

Rhun ap Iorwerth MS

Alun Davies MS

John Griffiths AM

Darren Millar AM

Secretariat - Jenny Scott, Director, British Council Wales

2. Previous Group Meetings since the last AGM.

Meeting 1

Meeting date: 14 July 2021

Attendees:

Heledd Fychan MS Chair

Rhun ap Iorwerth MS (Former Chair)

John Griffiths MS

Delyth Jewell MS

Heledd Roberts (Rhun ap Iorwerth MS office)

Sian Hollaran, International Coordinator, Colleges Wales

Rhiannon Hughes, Festival Director, Wicked Wales International Youth Film Festival

Claire O'Shea, Head of Partnerships, Hub Cymru Africa

Hayley Richards, Advocacy Advisor, Oxfam Cymru

David Anderson, Director General, National Museum Wales

Dr Walter Ariel Brooks, Head of Education, British Council Wales

Alison Cummins, Communications & External Relations Manager, British Council Wales

Natasha Nicholls, Head of Arts, British Council Wales

Rosa Bickerton, Project Manager, British Council Wales

Maija Evans, Education Manager, British Council Wales

Rebecca Wignall, Arts Manager, British Council Wales

Calum O'Byrne Mulligan, Political Affairs Adviser, British Council

Summary of issues discussed:

Members voted in a new Chair for the Wales International Cross Party Group for the 6th Senedd - Heledd Fychan MS - after the former Chair (Rhun ap Iorwerth MS) stood down. Ideas for the group's work future programme were discussed and members were invited to forward any further suggestions to the secretariat.

Meeting 2

Meeting date: 23 November 2021

Please note that this meeting was cancelled due to the Chair having COVID.

Meeting 3

Meeting date: 15 February 2022

Attendees:

Heledd Fychan MS (Chair)

Rhun ap Iorwerth MS

Alex Hughes-Howells, Researcher and Media Administrator, Welsh Conservatives

Eleri Morgan, Translator, Senedd Commission Staff

Rhun Davies, Senedd Researcher, Senedd

Robin Wilkinson, Senior Research Officer, Senedd

Sion Edwards, Translator, Senedd Commission Staff

David Anderson, Director General, Amgueddfa Cymru

Eluned Hâf, Director, Wales Arts International

Katie James, Arts Infopoint UK, Wales Arts International

Claire O'Shea, Head of Partnership, Hub Cymru Africa

Catherine Paskell, Artistic Director, Dirty Protest Theatre

Lleucu Siencyn, Chief Executive, Literature Wales

Alison Woods, Executive Director, NoFit State

Rhiannon Wyn Hughes, Festival Director, Wicked Wales International Youth Film Festival

Jenny Scott, Director - British Council Wales (Secretariat)

Mathilda Manley-Lewis, Project Support Officer, British Council Wales

Natasha Nicholls, Head of Arts, British Council Wales

Rebecca Wignall, Arts Manager, British Council Wales

Maija Evans, Education Manager, British Council Wales

Summary of issues discussed:

Following presentations by Catherine Paskell, the Artistic Director of Dirty Protest Theatre and Alison Woods, the Executive Director of NoFit State on their experiences of working internationally, the Chair invited comments and discussion on the support that the cultural sector in Wales needed to work internationally in a post-COVID recovery, post-Brexit context and in light of the Welsh Government's International Strategy.

Meeting 4

Meeting date: 5 July 2022

Attendees:

Andy Jones, Co-Founder & Booker, FOCUS Wales
 Betsan Jones, Digital content specialist, Freelance
 Brian Davies, Chief Executive Officer, Sport Wales
 Brooke Webb, Member Support Staff, Senedd
 Carmen Smith, Chief of Staff, Plaid Cymru Senedd Group
 Catrin Morris, International Digital Communications Officer, Wales Arts International
 David Warren, Head of International Engagement, Welsh Government
 Deborah Keyser, Director, Tŷ Cerdd – Music Centre Wales
 Eluned Hâf, Director, Wales Arts International
 Gareth Kear, Director of Commercial, Hockey Wales / Hoci Cymru
 Gavin Price, Alliance Leader - UK / Europe, Sports Diplomacy Alliance
 Hayley Richards, Head of Programme Development & Policy, Welsh Centre for International Affairs
 Jordan Griffiths, Communications and Research Officer for Luke Fletcher MS
 Professor Laura McAllister, Professor of Public Policy and the Governance of Wales, Cardiff University
 Lowri Jones, Senior Partnerships Manager, Welsh Government
 Matt Newman, Chief Executive Officer, Run 4 Wales
 Morgan Lloyd, Creative Strategist, Livingston+Lloyd
 Najma Hashi, Change Maker Support, Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales
 Neal Thompson, Co-Owner, Focus Wales
 Noel Mooney, Chief Executive Officer, Football Association of Wales
 Rhys Morgan, Translator, Senedd
 Rob Holt, Deputy Director Tourism Development and Event Wales, Welsh Government
 Roger Davies, Development & Engagement (Sport), Swansea University
 Shahinoor Alom, Communications and Community Liaison Officer for John Griffiths MS, Senedd
 Spencer John, Former Rugby Player
 Tim Hartley, Writer and Consultant
 Tim Powell
 Wil Rees
 Zélie Flach, European Officer, Wales Arts International
 Jenny Scott, Director - British Council Wales (Secretariat)
 Mathilda Manley-Lewis, Project Support Officer, British Council Wales
 Natasha Nicholls, Head of Arts, British Council Wales
 Rebecca Wignall, Arts Manager, British Council Wales

Summary of issues discussed:

Following opening statements by Noel Mooney, Chief Executive of the Football Association of Wales and Professor Laura McAllister of the Wales Governance Centre at Cardiff University, the Chair invited comments and on how Wales could

take full advantage of all the opportunities presented by the men's football team representing our nation on an international stage at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar.

3. Professional lobbyists, voluntary organisations and charities with whom the Group has met during the preceding year

None, but stakeholders from the organisations (listed above) have attended the Cross Party Group meetings.

Annual Financial Statement.

Cross Party Group on Wales International

Chair – Rhun ap Iorwerth AM

Secretary – Jenny Scott, British Council

Group's Expenses.	None.	£0.00
Costs of all goods.	No goods purchased.	£0.00
Benefits received by the group or individual Members from outside bodies.	No benefits received.	£0.00
Any secretariat or other support.	No financial support received.	£0.00
Services provided to the Group such as hospitality.		
Paid for by British Council Wales.		
Date	Description and name of provider	Cost
14/07/21	Translation of minutes – British Council Wales	£31.95
15/02/22	Translation of minutes – British Council Wales	£190.05
05/07/22	Translation of minutes – British Council Wales	£139.12
Total cost		£361.12