

Grŵp y Prif Swyddog Gweithredu
Chief Operating Officer's Group (COOG)



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Mark Isherwood MS
Chair of the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1SN

Ein Cyf/Our Ref: 240312/PBU/TM

15 March 2024

Dear Mr Isherwood,

Public Appointments

Thank you for your letter of 26 February 2024 about public appointments data collection and specifically data on the Welsh language ability and addresses of applicants and appointees.

The pilot phase I referred to in my letter of the 29 January is the work by the Welsh Government Equality, Race and Disability Evidence Unit which involved contacting public bodies and asking for information on the diversity of composition of their boards. This work did not ask for information on Welsh language skills or location and will not be included in that report.

However, I can confirm that we do collect applicant address and Welsh language skill information as part of the appointment process but do not currently collate or analyse this information. During the last year we have changed our recruitment system and in implementing the new system, our focus has initially been on ensuring that we can meet the reporting requirements which are required by the Commissioner for Public Appointments in his annual audit. The Commissioner does not ask for information about residencies or information about the Welsh language skills of those appointed and so we have not analysed that information so far. However, we are developing our capability, and our intention is to analyse the data relating to Welsh language and residencies after we have had a full year under the new system. I will provide PAPAC with a copy of this analysis when it is complete. The full commitment in the Reflecting Wales in Running Wales diversity and inclusion Strategy also includes data on socio-economic grouping. Our new system does collect this data and so we will be able to report on this in the future.

I hope this is helpful to the Committee in considering its Inquiry into Public Appointments.

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Moss', with a horizontal line above the first few letters and a horizontal line below the last few letters.

Tim Moss
Director General and Chief Operating Officer,
Welsh Government