

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to you to complain about the lack of coverage provided on BBC Wales's English news service of the Welsh Government's historic announcement on 12 March this year, regarding the intention to establish a [Broadcasting and Communications Advisory Body for Wales](#), based on some of the recommendations made in a report by Mel Doel and Professor Elin Haf Gruffydd Jones, '[A new future for broadcasting and communications in Wales](#)', which was published in August last year.

There was coverage of the announcement on [BBC Cymru Fyw](#), but not on the equivalent English language website. As a consequence, only Welsh speakers will have heard this important announcement, while monolingual English speakers in Wales will not be aware of the development.

To make matters worse, it was reported on BBC Wales News's English website at the end of September last year that [no such body would be formed](#). In fact, the only information that users of your monolingual English service have is that the body in question would not be established. [We questioned the validity of the story at the time](#), but we did not receive any explanatory evidence to back it up. You will therefore understand why we are so concerned about the lack of coverage regarding the latest development, which is an official, accurate announcement.

In our opinion, this follows a pattern, namely the BBC's lack of impartiality in addressing the debate surrounding the devolution of broadcasting, in an area that directly affects the corporation's interests.

The establishment of the Body is of considerable significance, as it will – as the Government itself acknowledges – address the protection of public broadcasting and will improve the overall media environment in Wales. The Government also recognises that the establishment of the body is an important milestone in the process of devolving the broadcasting sector, which would be transformational development for the media in Wales.

Of course, the establishment of the body – as well as the devolution of broadcasting – would have a direct impact on the future of the BBC, making it all the more important that you cover this matter fairly.

I request that you remedy the situation by covering the establishment of the body on your English platforms as a matter of urgency.

Sincerely,

Mirain Owen

Vice-chair, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Digital Group