



British Broadcasting Corporation
Broadcasting House, London W1A 1AA

From the Director-General

9 May 2024

Delyth Jewell
Chair, Culture, Communications, Welsh Language,
Sport and International Relations Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff CF99 1NA

Dear Delyth,

Thank you for your letter dated 21 March 2024 and for a copy of the Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and International Relations Committee's report, "State of play: Public service broadcasting in Wales", laid on 25 March 2024.

We are grateful to you and the Committee for the report which highlights the BBC's continued commitment to audiences in Wales and to the Welsh creative economy. We acknowledge and welcome your comments which highlight the commendable progress made by the BBC as part of the Across the UK programme. We also note the recommendations made by the Committee in relation to funding and reporting on devolved policy issues.

As you highlight in your report, the corporation has increased investment in content which is made in Wales following the decision to move more production out of London. Last year, for example, the BBC doubled its investment in network radio produced in Wales and we've seen the biggest drama slate ever commissioned by BBC Wales. The BBC is also proud to have seen a significant year-on-year increase of audiences to BBC Wales's content on the iPlayer, BBC Sounds and News online, and to have supported extended hours of broadcasting in recent months on Radio Cymru 2. The BBC in Wales has demonstrated clear ambition and its content strategy has borne fruit as demonstrated by this year's audience impact.

On our network news coverage, the BBC is committed to reporting on the devolved nations across our network provision of News and Current Affairs, and throughout our nations-specific output. As devolved powers have increased, we have sought to be clearer in

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signposting to audiences across network news where stories are applicable to each nation and how it impacts them. As part of our coverage, we also routinely explain the differences in policy across the nations to aide audience understanding of the policies and the democratic level of decision-makers behind them. We will continue to innovate across BBC News and seek new ways of telling devolved stories in order to enhance audience understanding across our output.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'T. Davie', written over a horizontal line.

Tim Davie
Director-General