

Jack Sargeant AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Diwylliant, Sgiliau a Phartneriaeth Gymdeithasol  
Minister for Culture, Skills and Social Partnership



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref  
Ein cyf/Our ref

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

[SeneddCulture@senedd.wales](mailto:SeneddCulture@senedd.wales)

24 April 2025

Dear Delyth,

Thank you for your letter of 11 March requesting an update on the work of the Wales Public Interest Journalism Working Group.

The Working Group was established in late 2022 following a recommendation made to the previous Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism, Dawn Bowden MS by the National Union of Journalists. Its aim is to facilitate discussion between industry stakeholders and the Welsh Government, and to identify the levers available to both industry and government to support a strong, sustainable journalism sector in Wales. The Working Group has no formal role in Welsh Government policy decision making.

The recommendation report referenced in Mr Marshall's correspondence, *Of and For Wales: Towards a Sustainable Future for Public Interest Journalism*, was published in 2023, and sets out the views of members on the intervention needed for a sustainable industry in Wales. At the time, the report was presented to the then Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism, Dawn Bowden MS and Designated Co-operation Agreement Member Cefin Campbell MS, where it was agreed both officials and Working Group members should continue discussions on the steps required to take the report's recommendations forward. Since taking on portfolio responsibility for journalism I have committed to responding to the report and to meet with the Working Group to discuss next steps.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

[Gohebiaeth.Jack.Sargeant@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Jack.Sargeant@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Jack.Sargeant@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Jack.Sargeant@gov.wales)

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.

Alongside the Working Group's discussions, the Welsh Government has provided support for journalism projects, with circa £400k awarded through Creative Wales to the Cardiff University's Sector Data Research project, the hyper-local Journalism Fund, the Independent Community News Network led dedicated Senedd reporter post and the Inclusive Journalism Cymru led Inclusive "Media Development Lab" project. All projects have been welcomed by the sector in Wales.

Since the publication of the Working Group's report, members continue to meet to discuss how best to use the levers available to action the report's proposals, and the ways in which industry can play its part in making change. It has recently been agreed with Working Group members that its Terms of Reference should be refreshed, and I would be happy to share the revised document with the Committee when available.

Addressing the specific issues raised by Mr Marshall, the Terms of Reference and minutes of meetings are not routinely published. However, information is made available on demand and Mr Marshall engages regularly with my officials and has received minutes of all Working Group meetings and the details of Working Group members. Membership is open to those individuals currently actively working within the industry. Mr Marshall was a founding member of the Working Group, retaining membership until mid-2023 when he left following his departure from the organisation he was representing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JACK SARGEANT". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line underneath it.

**Jack Sargeant AS/MS**

Minister for Culture, Skills and Social Partnership

Y Gweinidog Diwylliant, Sgiliau a Phartneriaeth Gymdeithasol