

Y Gwir Anrh/Rt Hon Carwyn Jones AC/AM
Prif Weinidog Cymru/First Minister of Wales
Ein cyf/Our ref: FM/05045/12

Professor Herve Le Bihan

Herve.lebihan@uhb.fr

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Dear Herve,

I write in response to your email dated 11 January, in which you asked for funding in order to continue to provide a Welsh course at Roazhon University (Rennes).

As you know, the Welsh Government has committed to ensure that the Welsh language prospers. The Welsh Government wants to support the language, and to give Welsh citizens the opportunity to use either one of the two official languages of Wales. It will emphasise this in its new Welsh language strategy, "A Living Language: A Language for Living", which will be published in mid-February.

However, regarding your request, I am unable to find any funding for this course within the Welsh Government's budget lines. I am sure that you will appreciate the difficulty of the current climate. In such a climate, it is essential that we use our budget in an effective and efficient way in order to improve public services in Wales. Bearing that in mind, I am unable to commit the scarce resources that we have in Wales to fund a course at a higher education institution in France.

Although I realise that the University and the Regional Council of Brittany have strong links with Wales, higher education institutions are independent bodies and the funding of this course is a matter for the University to decide. I sincerely hope that the University can find another way of funding this course however the choice is theirs to make.

Yours sincerely,

CARWYN JONES

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