

Pwyllgor Diwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chyfathrebu  
Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee  
CWLC(5)-05-16 PTN3

Rhodri Talfan Davies,  
Director,  
BBC Cymru Wales

30 September 2016

Dear Rhodri,

### **Savings of £9m per annum by 2022**

The Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee of the National Assembly for Wales is aware of your recent announcement to implement a major reorganisation aimed at saving £9m per annum by 2022.

I understand you are scheduled to appear before Committee on 6 October, ahead of our session with Tony Hall, Director-General of the BBC on 2 November.

I would like to take this opportunity to register our deep concern over this announcement.

You will know that, as a result of the recent Memorandum of Understanding, this Assembly and the Welsh Government now have a formal consultation role in the BBC and its future.

Ensuring that Wales' voice and the concerns of Welsh audiences are recognised through the creation of the Culture, Welsh Language & Communications Committee. This brings with it a new and serious responsibility to fully scrutinise the way the BBC is funded, as well as the way it delivers its services in Wales.

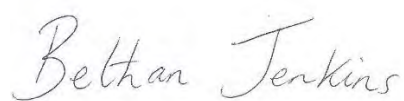


These proposed savings come at a time when the debate about how life in Wales is reflected by the BBC, along with its portrayal across the network, has come to the fore once again. If we are to receive fresh commitments from the BBC Director General when he appears before the committee, we will have to ask how that will be funded, especially in the context of the savings proposed by BBC Wales. We do not wish to see content and programming affected in a detrimental way, and neither do we wish to receive merely warm words of intent. We need action now.

The Committee welcomes the commitment made in your Management Review 2015/16 to 'invest additional money in dedicated English language television content for Wales.' However, given your recent announcement, we are now at a time when the exact amount of such investment needs urgent clarification.

I look forward to 6 October and the opportunity to explore these matters in greater detail.

Yours sincerely,



**Bethan Jenkins AM**

**Chair**

