

Pwyllgor Diwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chyfathrebu  
Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee  
CWLC(5)-08-16 P17

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing to you to express my concerns about the proposal to merge the commercial functions of the National Museum with those of CADW. The proposal would perceivably undermine and threaten the independence of the National Museum. In my experience a museum is and should be more than a place in which to experience history. It is a living, thriving centre of culture that, without its assured independence, could cease to follow a creative path. I believe it to be important that in building a creative nation, the independence of National institutions is protected. Independence in this case means the confidence to engage in independent education work and ongoing partnerships with organisations that prove to be a fit for a particular activity.

As a parent, it is important to me that my children are able to experience museums as living places of creativity and not just as a place to view artefacts. The NMW has always given us an opportunity to experience and involve us in activities that expand our horizon. I believe that this will only continue to happen in an independent institution that is fully staffed and does not need to cross reference with the commercial function of a historical environment service.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Michaelis