

Mark Drakeford AM/AC
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid a Llywodraeth Leol
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-719
Ein cyf/Our ref MD/05382/16

Mike Hedges AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
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government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk

29 October 2016

Dear Mike,

Thank you for your letter dated 10 October about the petition you have received from Harry Hayfield.

I recognise the important role Third Sector organisations play in providing services across Wales, and this is reflected in the Welsh Government's Draft Budget for 2017-18 which was published on 18 October. Despite pressures on the Welsh Government's budget next year, within the Communities and Children Portfolio, the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children has maintained funding for Third Sector Support Wales at the same level as in 2016-17.

Third Sector Support Wales is the collective term for the group of organisations, which includes the Wales Council for Voluntary Action and 19 County Voluntary Councils covering all 22 local authority areas in Wales, to provide advice, support and representation to both volunteers and volunteering.

In addition to the funding which is allocated to Third Sector Support Wales, other portfolios within the Welsh Government also provide funding to Third Sector organisations. This is provided as either grant-in-aid or in return for procured for services as required.

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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.

All Third Sector organisations are welcome to apply for funding from the Welsh Government. Many organisations benefit from a discussion with Welsh Government officials and initial enquiries should be directed to the Welsh Government's Third Sector and Community Grants Unit. Officials in the Unit will endeavour to ensure organisations are signposted to the most appropriate source of information and funding support from within the Welsh Government, should this be the appropriate route. Alternatively, officials will be pleased to direct organisations to other sources of information or potential funding.

Any organisation wishing to discuss this can contact thirdsectorqueries@wales.gsi.gov.uk in the first instance.

I am copying this letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children.

Best wishes,

Mark

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11/11/2016