



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Bethan Jenkins AM
Chair
Culture, Welsh Language & Communications Committee
National Assembly for Wales

20th June 2017

Dear Bethan,

I am writing in response to your letter of 24 May 2017 regarding the appointment of a new BBC Board Member for Wales. In your letter you have asked for the consent of Welsh Ministers to be withheld until after a pre-appointment hearing with your Committee.

Policy responsibility for Broadcasting is not devolved. Although the consent of the Welsh Ministers is required before the Board Member for Wales can be appointed, the recruitment and appointment process is not determined by the Welsh Government, although we are of course consulted and are represented on the recruitment panel. Ultimately however, this process is determined and managed by the UK Government. It is therefore not within my powers to introduce a pre-appointment hearing. It is clear that the process would also need to be consistent for all nation member appointments. I know that the Minister for Lifelong Learning and the Welsh Language plans to discuss this matter with the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport and his counterparts in the Scottish Government and Northern Ireland Executive, in relation to future appointments of BBC Board Members representing the nations. It is a matter for you as to whether you wish to have a similar discussion with the Chairs of the relevant Parliamentary or Assembly Committees in the UK, Scotland and Northern Ireland, who would need to agree they should be similarly be involved in the future appointments for their respective nations.

The recruitment process to appoint a Welsh Board Member is currently live and interviews are expected to take place in late June. I would expect the person subsequently appointed to make themselves available to the Committee for scrutiny at an appropriate time, as early as possible following their appointment.

Yours sincerely

CARWYN JONES

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

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

YP.PrifWeinidog@llyw.cymru • ps.firstminister@gov.wales

Pwyllgor
Diwylliant,
y Gymraeg
a Chyfathrebu
Culture, Welsh
Language and
Communications
Committee

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.