



29.03.2018

The independent review of S4C by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Dear friend

We were pleased this morning to receive the official report and recommendations of the independent review of S4C chaired by Mr Euryrn Ogwen Williams. The report can be read [here](#).

We welcome the announcement today that S4C's Exchequer funding will be maintained at the current level for the rest of this Spending Review period. This will provide stability for S4C over the coming years to help us face the substantial challenges which lie ahead. We also welcome the Government's wish to secure S4C's funding stability for the long term. Given S4C's longstanding and valued partnership with the BBC, the recommendation that we should receive the whole of our funding from the licence fee will inevitably be a controversial step. The challenge will be to ensure three crucial principles, namely funding stability, S4C's independence and the provision of adequate funding.

Throughout, the review demonstrates how essential S4C is considered to be in the life of modern Wales and to the future of the Welsh language. What comes over very clearly is the wish on all sides for S4C to do more – more, in terms of creating digital content; more, in terms of contributing to sustaining and developing the language and the numbers of its speakers; more, in terms of being an effective partner to other bodies in related areas. The challenge, of course, is to do so without weakening the richness of the present provision.

Many of the report's recommendations run in parallel with internal work streams already in place. They all deserve our careful consideration. We will be looking at the detail and the Government's response over the coming weeks before responding in more detail.

Thank you for your continued support of S4C -in particular during the period of the review. If you would like to discuss the report or our response to its recommendations, please do not hesitate from contacting us or Steve Thomas, strategy and policy consultant and Catrin Hughes Roberts, director of partnerships, through glesni.parry@s4c.cymru or 02920 741243.

Yours sincerely

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Chair, S4C Authority

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Chief Executive, S4C