



Ein cyf/Our ref MA-P/KW/3631/18

Mrs Bethan Sayed AM, Chair  
Culture, Welsh Language and Communication Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff.  
CF99 1NA

19 October 2018

Dear Bethan,

## **ANTHEM – MUSIC FUND WALES**

Thank you for your letter of 24 September regarding Anthem, Music Fund Wales.

You have asked how Anthem is progressing. The organisation has been established and following a robust recruitment and selection exercise, the Arts Council of Wales has appointed a Chair. A public announcement on the name of the Chair will be made in the next few days.

You refer to the funding investment provided by Welsh Government to establish Anthem and how the organisation's funds will need to be built up from a variety of sources over the next few years. We fully understand the challenges of capitalising the fund to reach a level where it can begin to start making a difference to young musicians and we are confident that the new Chair has the skills and experience to ensure that this can be achieved.

Anthem is now entering an exciting phase of its development as the new Chair looks to recruit a Board that can deliver on the fund capitalisation phase through the development of a sustainable long-term funding strategy.

Thank you for drawing my attention to the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee's report 'Building Resilience: Inquiry into non-public funding of the arts' and the challenges identified within the report. I appreciate that for some organisations within the Arts sector that there can be some difficulties in raising funding.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

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

[Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales)

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.

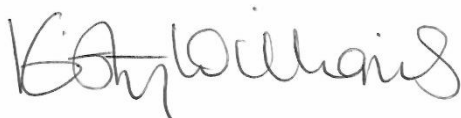
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Anthem is, as you will recall, the Welsh Government's long-term strategy to help support arts organisations and individuals to access additional sources of funding to ensure that all young people have the opportunities to reach their full musical potential. While the precise nature of this support will be determined by Anthem itself, it is critical that the fund is utilised as an additional source of support and not a replacement for current funding schemes.

I also note, following your meeting with the Chief Executive of Community Foundation in Wales, (CFIW) the potential opportunity for Anthem to collaborate with them to utilise their experience in the management of charitable investments and development of endowment funds.

The Minister for Culture, Tourism and Sport and I met the new Chair of Anthem on 17 October. While how they approach their fund-raising activity is ultimately a matter for the Chair and its Board to consider, I made the Chair aware of the excellent good-practice and expertise that already exists and can be called upon to help the organisation achieve its goals.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kirsty Williams', written in a cursive style.

**Kirsty Williams AC/AM**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg  
Cabinet Secretary for Education