



Ein cyf/Our ref : MA - P/DET/4226/18

Bethan Sayed AM  
Chair  
Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee  
National Assembly for Wales

28 November 2018

Annwyl Bethan

## Welsh Government Draft Budget 2019-20

I am writing to respond to the action points recorded by the Clerk, which arose from the Culture, Welsh Language & Communications Committee Draft Budget scrutiny session on 8 November 2018:

### **1. Decision-making and governance arrangements for the Media Budget, and the efforts made by the Welsh Government to promote the scheme and let potential applicants know that the fund is open for applications**

There was a lengthy discussion at the beginning of the session about funding for film and TV production in Wales, in which my officials and I sought to address the Committee's uncertainty about the funding currently available. I made it clear that we are open for business as usual, and we have production funding routes available under the Economy Futures Fund which we are successfully using to bring productions to Wales. I acknowledged that the specific mechanism for the Media Investment Budget (MIB) is paused for the moment, but we are working hard to promote the sector in Wales and are using all available funding routes to do so.

Proposals for use of the remaining funding allocated to the MIB will be brought forward in due course for myself and the Cabinet Secretary to consider.

### **2. During the meeting the funding available for owners of listed properties was discussed. The Minister mentioned that the Welsh Government wants to make clear that there are opportunities for co-investment for owners. It was also said that owners with innovative funding proposals will be looked on favourably. Can you confirm if this has been communicated to owners of listed properties?**

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

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

[Gohebiaeth.Dafydd.Elis-Thomas@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Dafydd.Elis-Thomas@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Dafydd.Elis-Thomas@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Dafydd.Elis-Thomas@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.

The focus of Cadw's grants for historic building repair schemes is on helping to save listed buildings which are at risk and/or stimulate regeneration opportunities and deliver benefits to Welsh communities. One of the ways in which these benefits can be provided is through skills development and access opportunities. Any investment is based on a partnership approach, with Cadw funding up to 50% of grant eligible works. We seek assurances on other available sources of funding through our application process and encourage innovative solutions and collaboration. Our eligibility criteria and requirements are set out on our website and this will be updated with information on the next round of funding shortly.

**3. Please can you let us know how the £100,000 for start-up grants for journalists seeking to set up their own businesses in the hyperlocal sector will be allocated and who is responsible for the budget?**

The Welsh Government has committed to providing £100k in 2018-19 and £100k in 2019-20 to support journalists seeking to set up their own business in hyperlocal news. This is additional to the existing support for businesses through Business Wales. This funding is within the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport's portfolio, and we will be considering the administration of the fund soon.

Yours sincerely



**Yr Arglwydd Elis-Thomas AC/AM**

Y Gweinidog Diwylliant, Twristiaeth a Chwaraeon  
Minister for Culture, Tourism and Sport