

Linda Tomos
National Librarian
National Library of Wales

14 January 2019

Dear Linda,

National Broadcast Archive

As you know, Members discussed the National Library of Wales' bid for £5 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to establish a National Broadcast Archive at the meeting of the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee on 6 December 2018.

At our meeting on 10 January 2019 we had the opportunity to discuss the bid with Deputy Minister for Culture, Tourism and Sport, Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas. We were also provided with copies of correspondence to the Library which are published on our [website](#). The meeting can be viewed on [Seneddtv](#).

We were encouraged to hear that the Deputy Minister supports the development of an Archive in Wales, although he cautioned that any project must go forward on the basis of the best use of public funds.

Committee Members are keen to ensure that this project comes to fruition, we feel it is vital to safeguard our social history and make it available to be viewed by people in Wales. It would therefore be helpful if you could clarify some issues which arose.

Outstanding issues relating to the Business Case

During the meeting we heard that the Welsh Government is still seeking reassurances from the Library on the Business Case for the bid. Please can you confirm that the Welsh Government has been provided with the additional information they requested for the Business Case?

You indicated at our meeting in December that the bid will be signed off at the National Library's Board meeting in February. Committee Members are keen to ensure that any issues which remain are resolved in advance of this.


Discussions with the Welsh Government

Can you clarify the dates of all meetings on this topic between the National Library – either yourself, or the President – and the Deputy Minister for Culture, Tourism and Sport to date?

I understand you are due to meet the Deputy Minister in February. Do you anticipate that you will have made sufficient progress with the Business Case by the time of this meeting? If not, do you have a contingency plan in place to ensure that the HLF bid will still be considered if it is not presented by the end of this financial year?

I would be grateful for your response to these and any other issues raised on 10 January you wish to address by 25 January. With apologies for the short deadline,

Yours sincerely,



Bethan Sayed

Chair of the Committee

Dear Chair

Many thanks for your letter dated 14 January 2019. The President and myself are extremely grateful to the Committee for its interest in progressing this exciting development and we welcome all opportunities to ensure that an application for second round funding to establish the National Broadcast Archive can be submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund following scrutiny by the Library Board of Trustees on 1 and 15 February 2019. We have reminded Welsh Government officials that time is now short to receive a response by 1 February which could be considered by the Library's Trustees.

We would also be grateful if the Committee could note that mention of a potential deficit of £900k in 2024 relates to a situation where the Welsh Government would not have provided any funding to the Library between 2019 and 2024 for a pay uplift in line with any pay award for civil servants. Clearly the Board of Trustees would not allow this deficit to be incurred and, in the absence of any response from the Welsh Government, a medium term forward financial plan will be implemented which, regrettably, is likely to involve the loss of posts. This situation will be incurred regardless of whether the NBA project is progressed or not. The NBA project is fully funded until 2024. After 2024, the estimated annual cost of the NBA, on a shared cost basis, is £237k which will be identified over the next five years, informed by the experience of implementing the project.

With regard to the specific points raised in your letter,

- We have provided all information requested by the Welsh Government and have consistently asked whether further information is required. I enclose two e-mails together with the response from the official who does not request any further details. We have always recognised that it is in Library's best interests to share information with the Welsh Government.
- The only invitation from the Deputy Minister to the President to attend a meeting relates to a forthcoming meeting to be held on 14 February 2019. The usual 6 monthly Ministerial meetings with the President have not been held since the Deputy Minister was appointed. I have attended the usual regular monitoring meetings with the sponsor division and two meetings organised by Welsh Government officials to discuss the NBA project on 27 July and 19 December 2018. I enclose an e-mail sent to the Deputy Minister's private office on 19 July requesting an urgent telephone call between the Minister and the President following receipt of the Deputy Minister's letter on 19 July 2018. No reply was received.
- The current proposal will need to be scrutinised by the Board of Trustees on 1 February with a decision taken at the full Board meeting on 15 February. The application would then need to be agreed with HLF Wales Office and submitted by 31

March 2019. If a response is not received from the Welsh Government, the Board has previously agreed that the current proposal would not be submitted as this position would seriously weaken its chances in a very competitive second funding round. Any new proposal would then need to be discussed at the Library Board meeting on 26 April 2019. Our understanding is that the final submission date under the current programme which accepts applications up to £5 million is 31 March 2019. Any later submission would be subject to lower maximum levels of grant support.

I hope that this information addresses the queries in your letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if members require any further details.

Cofion gorau

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Linda Tomos', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Linda Tomos

Chief Executive and Librarian

Enc.

Appendix

E-mail 1

From: Linda Tomos <xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Sent: 06 November 2018 16:22

To: xxxxxxx (ESNR - Culture - Arts) <xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Cc: Rhodri Glyn-Thomas <xxxxxxxxxxxx>; Lee Yale-Helms <xxxxxxxxxxxx>

Subject: Re: Confidential: 2 Draft Briefing Reports

Annwyl xxxxx

Following our very constructive call yesterday, I enclose 2 draft briefing papers being prepared for the November Board meeting. Please treat these as confidential as they have not yet been discussed by the Board. However, I hope that they demonstrate that we are all working hard to address the issues raised in the Minister's July letter. Please note that there is one figure in yellow in the financial paper for which I am awaiting confirmation and I will confirm the figures tomorrow. I am keen to ensure that you feel that you have received all the required information to prepare advice for the Minister on this issue and therefore please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss any matters further.

Cofion gorau

Linda

Subject: RE: Confidential: 2 Draft Briefing Reports

Date: Tue, 6 Nov 2018 16:35:19 +0000

From: xxxxxxx (ESNR - Culture - Arts) <xxxxxxxx>

To: Linda Tomos <xxxxxxxx>

CC: Rhodri Glyn Thomas <xxxxxxxx>, Lee Yale-Helms <xxxxxxxx>

Thanks Linda - we will start looking at this straight away, as discussed.

Cofion gorau

xxxxxxx

E-mail 2

Subject: National Broadcast Archive Papers

Date: Mon, 12 Nov 2018 09:59:32 +0000

From: Carol Edwards <xxxxxxxx>

To: xxxxxxxx, (ESNR - Culture - Arts) <xxxxxxxx>

CC: LINDA TOMOS <xxxxxxxx>, DAVID MICHAEL <xxxxxxxx>, PEDR AP LLWYD <xxxxxxxx>

Linda, xxxxxx

Linda has prepared the enclosed papers for the Board of Trustees and has asked me to forward them to you for information. I confirm that all relevant papers as regard the Broadcast Archive have now been sent to you.

Kind regards

Carol

--

Carol Edwards

Rheolwr Llywodraethiant a Chlerc Bwrdd yr Ymddiriedolwyr | Governance Manager and Clerk to the Board of Trustees

Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru | The National Library of Wales
Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 3BU

xxxxxxxxxxx | xxxxxxxxxxxxxx | www.llyfrgell.cymru

Subject: Re: National Broadcast Archive Papers

Date: Mon, 12 Nov 2018 11:36:33 +0000

From: xxxxxx (ESNR - Culture - Arts) <xxxxxxxxxx>

To: Carol Edwards <xxxxxxxxxx>, xxxxxxxx

CC: Linda Tomos <xxxxxxxxxx>, David Michael <xxxxxxxxxx> Pedr ap Llwyd <xxxxxxxxxx>

Many thanks Carol - we will prepare advice for the Minister asap.

xxxxxxx

Request for an Urgent Telephone Call

Subject: Galwad brys gyda'r Gweinidog - Archif Ddarlledu Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru

Date: Thu, 19 Jul 2018 12:18:33 +0100

From: Carys Dafydd <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

To: PS.MinCTandS@gov.wales

Annwyl Elin,

Yn dilyn llythyr y Gweinidog at ein Llywydd Rhodri Glyn Thomas bore ma, hoffai Rhodri drefnu galwad ffôn brys gyda'r Gweinidog os gwelwch yn dda. Rhowch wybod pryd fyddai'n gyfleus.

Diolch yn fawr,

Carys

--

Carys Dafydd

Swyddog Gweithredol y Prif Weithredwr a Llyfrgellydd | Operational Officer for the Chief Executive and Librarian

Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru | The National Library of Wales
Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 3BU

xxxxxxxxx | xxxxxxxxxxxx | www.llyfrgell.cymru