



Ein cyf/Our ref EM/05244/19

Janet Finch-Saunders AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee

[seneddpetitions@assembly.wales](mailto:seneddpetitions@assembly.wales)

17 April 2019

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter regarding petition P-05-873 – Free Welsh Lessons for the People of Wales.

Following a review of the Welsh for Adults sector in 2013, the National Centre for Learning Welsh was established in 2016. It offers strategic leadership to the sector, including developing a contemporary curriculum, creating a series of new courses which will be offered by each provider across Wales, as well as working with partners to expand opportunities for learners to develop and use their Welsh language skills.

The Centre is working with 11 providers to offer Welsh lessons for adults across Wales. Course details can be found via the Centre's website - <https://learnwelsh.cymru/learning/find-a-course/>.

The Centre offers practical support for learners in the form of free print and digital resources to accompany the new series of courses. The Centre has also developed online courses to offer a wider range of opportunities for learners to develop their Welsh language skills. Further details about the Centre's work can be found at [www.learnwelsh.cymru](http://www.learnwelsh.cymru).

A range of fees to register on Welsh courses is currently in use. Offering free Welsh courses for adults is not one of the 10 transformational changes set out in 'Cymraeg 2050'. However, the establishment of the Centre has provided an opportunity to ensure consistency in a number of aspects of the Welsh for adults programme, including learning fees. As a result of work undertaken by the Centre, all providers will introduce one fee of £90 per course, regardless of level or pattern of course, from September 2019. This will ensure consistency and fairness for all learners across Wales. One consistent discount structure for learning fees will also be introduced as part of these changes. This includes a 40% discount for individuals in receipt of benefits and students, and a discount of up to 100% (i.e. offering courses free of charge) for priority courses.

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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 Centre's Financial Contingency Fund offers financial support for Welsh learners. It offers support for a range of costs, including childcare and travel costs, to ensure these are not a barrier to learning.

I trust the information above explains steps being taken to ensure adults begin, and - crucially - continue to learn and use Welsh. I would be more than happy to provide further information to the Committee, or Efa Gruffudd Jones, the National Centre for Learning Welsh's Chief Executive, may be contacted directly by emailing should you wish to gather further evidence regarding their work to strengthen support for learners.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. E. Morgan'.

**Eluned Morgan AC/AM**

Gweinidog y Gymraeg a Chysylltiadau Rhyngwladol  
Minister for International Relations and the Welsh Language