Eluned Morgan AC/AM Gweinidog y Gymraeg a Chysylltiadau Rhyngwladol Minister for International Relations and the Welsh Language



Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-873 Ein cyf/Our ref EM/05376/19

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
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Annugh Taret,

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

The National Centre for Learning Welsh aims to attract more individuals to learn Welsh and, crucially, ensure these individuals continue with their studies in order to reach a point where they can use their Welsh language skills in real-life situations.

Whilst there is a limit to the number of learners who can participate in the Learn Welsh programme, the Centre works closely with its network of 11 providers to make best use of the available capacity.

Welsh is of course part of the national curriculum for all school-aged learners up to Key Stage 4. The National Centre for Learning Welsh launched 'Clwb Cwtsh' in 2018, providing free Welsh courses for parents, guardians and other family members enabling them to support the child's linguistic development. More than 1,000 adults participated in the programme during its first year.

Strengthening the Welsh for Adults teaching workforce and building additional capacity is a priority for the Centre. To address these issues, it published a Workforce Development Plan in 2018 which focuses on four themes:

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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.

- raising the profile of the sector and creating attractive career pathways
- ensuring appropriate and meaningful structures
- developing a qualified, fit-for-purpose workforce
- maintaining excellent performance.

This plan will be implemented in partnership with its providers by 2020.

Eluned Morgan AC/AM

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