

Huw Lewis AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth
Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref MB/HL/07487/11

Ann Jones AM
Chair
Communities Equality and Local Government Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

11

December 2011

Dear Ann

I am writing to you in your capacity as Chair of the Communities Equality and Local Government Committee with responsibility for Culture and Heritage matters.

As you will be aware, during 2010 the Communities and Culture Committee undertook an Inquiry into the accessibility of Arts and Cultural Activities in Wales. The Committee published a report of the findings of this Inquiry in February 2011. The report outlined 16 recommendations, 14 of which were accepted, in whole or in part, by my predecessor the Minister for Heritage.

I fully recognise the importance of the issues covered in the report and I am committed to taking forward the agreed recommendations for the benefit of the people of Wales. I am, therefore, pleased to enclose an update on the progress made against the recommendations contained in this report.

This Action Plan sets out the detail of each recommendation and identifies which organisation has been tasked with delivering it. The comments / progress section provides a comprehensive update on the activity that has already taken place and an outline of future activity. The individual actions cover a variety of different initiatives and require a number of different approaches if they are to be successfully delivered. Due to the comprehensive nature of the responses obtained from each organisation and in order to make the document more user-friendly, my officials have broken these down by organisation/ department. For example, on a number of recommendations there are updates on progress from the Arts Council of Wales, Cadw, CyMAL, the National Library of Wales and Amgueddfa Cymru-National Museum. Where appropriate, these have been brought together with an overview of my own/Welsh Government's commitments.

You will note that the recommendations within the initial report are wide-ranging and in many cases will take some time to fully implement if they are to achieve their maximum potential. I therefore propose to review this Action plan with my officials on a six monthly basis to ensure that the momentum already generated is maintained. I also propose to provide the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee with a formal update on progress annually.

I hope you will find this approach satisfactory and trust you will find the Action Plan both informative and reassuring.

Best Regards

Huw

Huw Lewis AC / AM

Y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth
Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage