



Ein cyf/Our ref: MA-P/DET/0624/18

Rhodri Glyn Thomas
President
National Library of Wales
Penglais
Aberystwyth
Ceredigion
SY23 3BU

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Annwyl Rhodri

Our national cultural institutions play a key role in Welsh life, in providing access to our heritage for everyone in Wales, and as an important part of our tourism economy. You are part of an exciting, creative and inspirational cultural community.

I would like to start by congratulating you on a successful year for the National Library in 2017-18, which included new departures for the National Library with the launch of the Welsh Music Archive Programme, and the innovative video installation commemorating the 100th anniversary of Hedd Wyn's death.

In addition, the National Library has offered valuable support in specific areas of work; particularly:

- your contribution to the *Fusion: Creating opportunities through culture* programme
- your support for the *Cymru'n Cofio* Wales Remembers 1914-1918 programme
- your role in the People's Collection Wales digital heritage programme
- the development of partnership working through Historic Wales
- providing support and leadership to the library and archive sector in Wales

I look forward to this work continuing in the next financial year.

I respect your charitable and Royal Charter status and the need for the National Library to act independently on a day-to-day basis. However, as a Welsh Government Sponsored Body, the National Library's aims should reflect Welsh Government policies. This letter sets out a number of priorities and expectations for the National Library that I would like you to consider when preparing your Operational Plan for 2018-19.

In addition to the National Library's core work, as laid out in its Charter, my priority areas for the National Library in the coming year are in Annex 1. Annex 2 confirms the level of Grant-in-Aid funding that the Welsh Government will provide to the National Library for 2018-19, and indicative figures for 2019-20.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

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

Gohebiaeth.Dafydd.Elis-Thomas@llyw.cymru
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.

There are three clear drivers for all our work. *Prosperity for All* sets out the key function of culture within community development. I am keen to see our cultural organisations representing and celebrating the diversity of Wales' communities; welcoming people from all backgrounds; improving health and well-being; assisting individuals to develop skills and experiences for employment and providing opportunities for participation in cultural activities across social boundaries. This approach is also reflected in *Light springs through the dark* which encourages our cultural organisations to increase participation in, and engagement with, cultural activities by people from all backgrounds.

Underpinning everything we do are the aims and wellbeing goals identified with the *Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act*. The five ways of working should be integrated within your strategic plan and you should demonstrate how you are delivering the well-being objectives that you have set in response to the requirements of the Act on public bodies.

Maintaining statutory responsibilities and meeting professional standards is key to demonstrating the National Library is effectively caring for and developing our national collections. The Library has statutory duties and specific obligations for certain types of material under the following UK legislation:

- Public Records Act 1958, and responsibilities for other controlled classes of records
- Legal Deposit Libraries Act 2003 and the Legal Deposit Libraries (non-print works) Regulations 2013

I expect the National Library to maintain Archive Service Accreditation and its' status as a place of deposit under the Public Records Act 1958; and work towards Museum Accreditation. I also encourage you to maintain and, if possible, improve your existing achievements under the Customer Service Excellence and Visit Wales standards.

The above should be reflected within your draft Operational Plan for 2018-19, which the Welsh Government should receive from you by 21 March 2018, in order for the relevant goals, targets and performance indicators within the plan to be approved.

It is my intention that our relationship will be based on mutual trust and respect, and open and honest communication. I look forward to receiving your operational plan and to hearing more about your work during the coming year.

Yours sincerely,



Yr Arglwydd Elis-Thomas AC/AM
Y Gweinidog Diwylliant, Twristiaeth a Chwaraeon
Minister for Culture, Tourism and Sport

Annex 1: Key Deliverables

1.0 United and Connected

“Our aim is to build a nation where people take pride in their communities, in the Welsh identity and language, and our place in the world.” (Prosperity for All; page 19)

1.1 **Prosperity for All Objective: Build resilient communities, culture and language**

Our cultural institutions have the ability to help and empower people from all backgrounds to participate in cultural life in Wales, and to support the creation of cohesive communities.

I would like the National Library to:

- Increase access to National Library collections, services and resources outside the building through outreach activities and local partnerships; and continue to implement your Volunteering Scheme
- Continue to provide strategic support to the wider library sector in Wales, especially through the Digital Library service

1.2 **Light Springs objective: Increasing participation, inclusion and engagement**

The National Library can help Wales to become a creatively active nation; providing access to cultural opportunities for people from all backgrounds and reflecting the diversity of our nation.

I would like the National Library to continue and develop activities in support of the *Fusion* programme; and beyond this to:

- Encourage and increase participation in cultural activities from the broadest range of diverse audiences
- Monitor user satisfaction and incorporate user feedback into future initiatives and developments

1.3 **Prosperity for All Objective: Promote and protect Wales’ place in the world**

The National Library has an important role to play in showcasing Wales’ vibrant culture, heritage and language to an international audience, helping to promote our nation worldwide.

I would like the National Library to:

- Maintain and develop your existing international links
- Continue to collaborate with Visit Wales to promote Wales including through your support for the ‘Year of the Sea’ in 2018
- Provide high quality digital content, services and resources to reach national and international audiences

2.0 Ambitious and Learning

“Our aim is to instil in everyone a passion to learn throughout their lives...” (Prosperity for All; page 15)

2.1 **Prosperity for All Objective: Support young people to make the most of their potential and build ambition and encourage learning for life**

Cultural institutions can widen people’s horizons and lift their aspirations, offering both formal and informal learning opportunities for individuals to grow and achieve throughout their lives.

I would like the National Library to:

- Seek to attract research funding and work in partnership with higher education institutions
- Continue the creation of digital learning resources for Hwb in partnership with Amgueddfa Cymru, the Royal Commission and Cadw

3.0 Prosperous and Secure

“Our aim is a Welsh economy which delivers individual and national prosperity while spreading opportunity and tackling inequality...” (Prosperity for All, page 7)

3.1 Prosperity for All Objective: Support people and businesses to drive prosperity; tackle regional inequality and fair work

Working with other organisations, staff and recognised trade unions is required to address specialist skills requirements within the wider cultural heritage sector and manage industrial relations.

I would like the National Library to:

- Collaborate with Historic Wales Strategic Partnership and the archive and library sectors in Wales on sector skills requirements and specialist skills
- Continue to provide strategic support to the wider archive sector in Wales, especially in the field of digital preservation
- Continue to work with staff and recognised trade unions to embed the longer term cultural changes recommended in reports by PriceWaterhouse Coopers and the Auditor General for Wales

3.2 Prosperity for All Objective: Drive sustainable growth and combat climate change

The National Library is a named body under the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act. Principles of sustainability and long term thinking should underpin your organisational planning.

I would like the National Library to:

- Ensure that Welsh Government funded maintenance work and building improvements at the National Library is managed effectively and efficiently
- Continue work to increase funding from external sources to reduce your reliance on Grant-in-Aid funding from the Welsh Government

4.0 Healthy and Active

“Our aim is to improve health and wellbeing in Wales, for individuals, families and communities... good health is seen as a natural asset for everyone.”
(Prosperity for All; page 11)

4.1 Prosperity for All Objective: Promote good health and well-being for everyone; and build healthier communities and better environments

Our cultural heritage institutions can support wider efforts to create the right conditions for better health, well-being and greater physical activity and increase social inclusion by offering opportunities for older people and people with physical and mental health conditions to engage in cultural activities.

I would like the National Library to:

- Support wider initiatives to improve health and wellbeing, such as the Wici-lechyd / Wiki-Health project

Annex 2: Financial support

The Welsh Government will provide the following Grant-in-Aid funding to the National Library in 2018-19 to deliver the priorities outlined in this letter. Planned figures are also provided for 2019-20 and 2020-21 (capital only). Funding levels for future years will be confirmed during the Welsh Government's usual annual Budget process.

| Revenue | Budget 2018-19 £000 | Plan 2019-20 £000 |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Revenue (gross) | 10,285 | 10,285 |
| Less: Library generated income | (700) | (700) |
| Total Revenue (net) | 9,585 | 9,585 |

| Non Cash | Budget 2018-19 £000 | Plan 2019-20 £000 |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Depreciation* | 1,250 | 1,250 |

*Depreciation is a non-cash item and is not available for drawdown in the course of the year

| Capital | Budget 2018-19 £000 | Plan 2019-20 £000 | Plan 2020-21 £000 |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Purchase Grant | 200 | 305 | 305 |
| Digital Infrastructure Grant | 105 | | |
| Capital Maintenance | 3,000 | 2,400 | 275 |
| Total Capital | 3,305 | 2,705 | 580 |

Additional non Grant-in-Aid funding which has already been earmarked to support specific activities:

| | Plans 2018-19 £000 | Indicative 2019-20 £000 |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Invest to Save: energy efficiency (capital) | (25) | - |

| | Plans 2018-19 £000 | Indicative 2019-20 £000 |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| People's Collection Wales programme | TBC | TBC |
| First World War commemoration activities | 20 | - |

Terms and Conditions of Grant-in-Aid funding:

The National Library's funding agreement with the Welsh Government (the Framework Document) sets out the details of the sponsorship relationship and the terms and conditions under which the Welsh Government provides Grant-in-Aid funding to the National Library as a Welsh Government Sponsored Body. Grant-in-Aid funding is provided to the National Library under Section 61 of the Government of Wales Act 2006.

The Framework Document also sets out various operational requirements and refers to government guidance and policies with which the National Library needs to comply, in addition to its own duties as responsibilities as a Charter body, Registered Charity and public institution in Wales. As stated in the Framework Document, the Welsh Government's Museums, Archives and Libraries Division (MALD) is the sponsor division for the National Library and monitors the National Library's progress against key targets and milestones through quarterly meetings.

People's Collection Wales digital heritage programme:

The National Library receives a funding allocation from the total People's Collection Wales budget, as one of the lead delivery partners for this programme. Exact funding allocations for future years are agreed between the lead partners on an annual basis. Lead partner allocations may vary between financial years, depending on the needs and priorities of the programme.

Payment of grant is subject to compliance with National Library's Framework Document.