



Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ85276

Sarah Murphy MS
Welsh Parliament
Sarah.Murphy@Senedd.Wales

9 June 2022

Dear Sarah,

I am writing to response to WQ85276: Will the Minister outline what opportunities exist for Horizon 2020-funded projects to continue their legacy in Wales?

Horizon 2020 has supported 389 projects in Wales, with Welsh organisations benefitting from over €150m of funds through these projects. These projects were funded by the European Commission on a time-limited basis to deliver specific objectives.

We recognise the vital importance of the collaborations, the knowledge, the innovation and the people supported through Horizon 2020 therefore we have consistently argued for the UK's continued participation in the EU's research and innovation programmes.

The Wales Innovation Network (WIN) were recently awarded £2m additional funds, some of which are being directed to Welsh Higher Education Institutes to both sustain EU projects and develop Horizon Europe collaborations.

The Welsh Government's SCoRE Cymru fund is also available for small scale grants to create and build on such relationships, however it cannot be a replacement for UK policy and programmes. The onus is on the UK Government to make good on their aim to associate to Horizon Europe and their aspiration to set up fit for purpose UK alternatives.

The Welsh Government, through its International Strategy and Regional Investment Framework, is committed to continuing to support such partnerships as those developed through Horizon 2020, where possible, to raise Wales' presence globally and make us more competitive. Our ability to do this will be restricted by the funding challenge created by the UK Government's position on the Shared Prosperity Fund.

Yours sincerely

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Economi
Minister for Economy

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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.