

Julie James AC/AM  
Y Gweinidog Sgiliau a Gwyddoniaeth  
Minister for Skills and Science



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref  
Ein cyf/Our ref: JJ/038/16

Mr H Irranca-Davies Assembly Member  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Huw.Irranca-davies@assembly.wales

18 July 2016

Dear Huw

Thank you for your question put to Alun Davies, Minister for Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language in Plenary on Wednesday 6 July regarding the Apprenticeship Levy and future funding for Apprenticeships.

As you may have heard from my statement on 14 June, no-one in the Skills arena can escape the issue of the Apprenticeship Levy. This is a matter of fundamental concern for us in Wales.

We are still waiting for clarity from the UK Government about how the planned Apprenticeship Levy scheme will operate in England and the impact it will have in Wales. While things are still somewhat unclear, they do not remove the need for us to seek greater certainty and to ensure that we continue to modernise apprenticeship provision here in Wales.

We remain committed to our Manifesto promise of a minimum of 100,000 Apprenticeship entrants during this Assembly term and my announcement in June began the process to deliver these.

The Apprenticeship programme is currently supported by £83m of ESF funding, channelled through the West Wales and the Valleys and East Wales EU programmes. While arrangements for a Brexit are being made for the longer term, the Welsh Government is committed to delivering our EU funded programmes, as citizens, communities, and businesses need this investment.

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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 First Minister has also called for a guarantee from the UK Government that Wales should not lose out from an EU withdrawal and for every penny of EU funds available to Wales to be replaced by funding from HM Treasury.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Julie James AC/AM**  
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