



Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ91460

Rhys ab Owen
Welsh Parliament
Rhys.abOwen@senedd.wales

7 March 2024

Dear Rhys,

I write in response to WQ91460: What is the Welsh Government doing to keep up a high level of economic productivity in Wales?

Our Economic Mission: Priorities for a Stronger Economy sets out four national priorities for a prosperous, greener and a more equal economy. Productivity is clearly important with regards to the economy and prosperity in the long run. As a result, productivity is part of a suite of economic indicators the Welsh Government uses to monitor and track the economy in Wales.

In the face of long running austerity, regressive welfare policies and economic instability at a UK level, our focus is on the longer-term levers we are able to utilise which including skills, education, business support and finance and strategic infrastructure investment. For example, we are delivering high-quality support for growth and specialist business through Business Wales and the Development Bank of Wales. Skills are repeatedly found to be a major factor in explaining differences between places' productivity. That is why we are continuing to deliver skills and employability programmes, such as our Young Person's Guarantee, delivering our Curriculum for Wales and why I have also recently announced a further £2.5m investment into our Jobs Growth Wales+ scheme. Underpinning this approach is our fair work agenda, which recognises the central role which fair conditions plays for increased productivity across the economy, where we are continuing to utilise our levers such as our Economic Contract.

In addition, we are working with regional partners to deliver against Regional Economic Frameworks and to further invest in job growth and skills. Investment in the right infrastructure, in the right places is a critical lever to enable fair and sustainable growth. Through our Wales Infrastructure Investment Strategy, we are continuing to invest in areas such as schools, transport, broadband and housing.

Yours sincerely,

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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.

Vaughan Gething

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Economi
Minister for Economy