

Vaughan Gething AS/MS  
Gweinidog yr Economi  
Minister for Economy



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ85185

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Welsh Parliament  
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Dear Janet,

I am writing to response to WQ85185: What efforts are being made to identify key locations in Wales for new research and innovation valleys to promote green sector jobs, as seen in the Silicon Valley in America and the Medicon valley in Denmark?

Our infrastructure, manufacturing and research and development base provides a strong platform for attracting significant new technology and alternative energy projects such as those for green R&D in Wales.

The Welsh Government has supported the development of four Regional Energy Strategies. The strategies identify the scale of change needed to reach a low carbon energy system and establish regional priorities for energy. This work models future demand for power, heat and transport, and assesses the economic impact of delivering the proposed ambitions.

EU funds have also been essential in supporting businesses to exploit the great potential of Wales' wave and tidal resources, with a significant investment of £105m in Marine Energy projects in Wales. These zones in north and south Wales were created for the purpose of generating new research and innovation opportunities for Wales. We are now clearly seeing this being delivered.

We are also working with Plaid Cymru Designated Members, in line with the cooperation agreement commitment, to jointly develop a new cross Government Innovation Strategy for Wales with publication currently planned for the Autumn.

In this draft we plan to prioritise RD&I which is commercially focussed, and outcome centred so that it helps to unlock local growth and societal benefit. The draft will also set out our vision of how innovation can be a tool to deliver the goals within the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

Yours sincerely,

**Vaughan Gething AS/MS**  
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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.