



Ein cyf/Our ref WQ88225

Andrew R.T. Davies MS  
Welsh Parliament  
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26 May 2023

Dear Andrew,

I write in response to WQ88225: What support has the Minister provided to those working in the game development industry?

The global games industry continues to boom and employs significant numbers across the UK, which as we know is one of the leading producer of some of the most popular titles worldwide. Creative Wales has prioritised the development of the games industry as a core part of its strategy since inception and actively promotes growth in the industry. There are a reported 70 active businesses in Wales currently making games across console, mobile and PC, with many of these producing and distributing popular titles.

To help develop new games IP, Creative Wales has provided 2 rounds of development funding since inception, with over £500,000 of awards in total being made to 23 projects from games studios in Wales to develop new IP concepts.

We have also recently developed production funding for games – a financial support route where studios producing larger titles in Wales, whether as inward investment or indigenous, can apply for significant funding to launch new games. We are hopeful that this new route will result in growth in the coming years.

For the last 8 years Creative Wales has led a dedicated trade mission to the Games Developer Conference in San Francisco, to raise their awareness of the industry and encourage trade and investment. In 2023, 18 Welsh Games companies attended and benefitted from a fully supported programme of investment meetings and networking, as well as subsidised premium stand space. In 2019, businesses attending the show reported over £2.3m in new business won. Details on investment secured from then recent mission will be announced in due course.

Recognising that nurturing our smaller companies and encouraging growth is key, we have this year commenced a pilot accelerator programme, delivered by Indielab, providing 6 Welsh businesses with fully funded places on a specialist development programme

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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.

alongside businesses from Scotland and England. This will deliver a series of supportive interventions in Summer 2023 designed to help the participants raise investment and produce more successful games.

For the last 3 years we have also funded the Games Talent Wales programme, alongside the UK Games fund Transfuzer programme, which provides aspiring final year students looking to develop games companies with £2,500 in funding towards developing a new title for showcasing at a major games event – EGX – in the Autumn.

Alongside this Creative Wales maintains a strong relationship with the industry, linking with opportunities offered by Innovate UK, industry bodies, media.cymru and stakeholders from the wider UK and International games industry to share knowledge with the Welsh industry and encourage its continued growth.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'V'.

**Vaughan Gething AS/MS**  
Gweinidog yr Economi  
Minister for Economy