# WRITTEN STATEMENT

# BY

# THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

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| **TITLE** | **Response to the Review of Cadw’s Governance Arrangements** |
| **DATE** | **12 June 2024** |
| **BY** | **Lesley Griffiths MS Cabinet Secretary for Culture and Social Justice** |

In December 2022, the Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism commissioned an independent review of Cadw’s governance arrangements. Roger Lewis as Chair of the review team published the report in December 2023.

The Chair stated “Cadw is, without doubt, a wonderful, high-achieving organisation, which celebrates and reinforces Welsh identity, staffed by wonderful people, and deservedly it is something for us all to cherish and be proud of. My response to the review is available here [https://www.gov.wales/review-cadws-governance-arrangements-welsh-government-response](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.wales%2Freview-cadws-governance-arrangements-welsh-government-response&data=05%7C02%7CSuzanne.Whiting%40gov.wales%7Ce9d3b03ad25440cb224108dc893aa0dc%7Ca2cc36c592804ae78887d06dab89216b%7C0%7C0%7C638536132093150111%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=LdL88ui0OGH2z63IKBI9mFZ%2BmggzP%2BgGp7YfyZ5U3So%3D&reserved=0)

The report consists of 29 recommendations divided into six themes and provides a basis for Cadw to develop and deliver for future generations. It is important to note in the short time since the report was published, the challenges facing the heritage sector have evolved. The incredibly difficult financial situation facing the Welsh Government, which has an impact on Cadw and the wider heritage sector, requires innovative ways of delivering services to be considered and the recommendations provide an opportunity to do this. However, I recognise some of the recommendations are more ambitious and must be considered for implementation over the longer term. I have set this out in my response.

I recognise the real contribution that heritage and the work of Cadw can make to my wider priorities of inclusion and equality – widening access for all to the outstanding historic sites and landscapes of Wales. Participation in heritage activities is recognised to bring positive outcomes for individuals, communities and wider society’s well-being. Bringing these areas together into one portfolio provides a golden opportunity to capitalise on these benefits.

I want to thank the review team for their work and for all the individuals who engaged with it.