



Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ88780

Paul Davies
MS for Preseli Pembrokeshire

Paul.davies@senedd.wales

August 2023

Dear Paul

I am writing in response to your written question, tabled on 9 August, regarding the steps the Welsh Government is taking to help entrepreneurs access global networks, to help businesses in Wales to grow (WQ88780).

The Business Wales service provides access to export support for entrepreneurs and businesses in Wales. There is a range of support including advice and guidance from advisers, a sector focussed Export Clusters Programme, online resources and tools, as well as access to export events such as overseas trade missions, trade exhibitions and in-Wales export development events.

The Welsh Government is a member of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's (MIT) Industrial Liaison Programme (ILP) which is a business engagement and collaboration mechanism used by MIT to foster networks and develop relationships with businesses around the world at all stages of development, from start-up to global corporates. Through the Welsh Government's membership of ILP, Welsh businesses and the wider ecosystem stakeholders can utilise ILP and tap into a wealth of world leading knowledge through access to faculty members as well as the wider ILP network of companies on a global scale. Activities include access to MIT-knowledge base of research and publications, MIT conferences, workshops specially for Welsh companies and keynote presentations by MIT faculty visiting Wales.

The Welsh Government is also sponsoring the GlobalWelsh quarterly Connect to London events. The events will offer Welsh founders the opportunity to showcase their business and ambitions, and pitch to potential clients, investors and build new connections in London via the GlobalWelsh community. Global Welsh aims to bring together Welsh people across the world as one global community, sharing knowledge, facilitating business opportunities, and introducing like-minded people.

Wales currently chairs the Vanguard Initiative, an alliance of 38 of the most advanced industrial regions in Europe, focused on stimulating industrial innovation and building European value-chains based on regional smart specialisation strategies.

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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.

Among others, Wales has signed a declaration of intent with Quebec and memoranda of understanding with Brittany, Flanders and the Basque Country, and a joint statement with Ireland.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Economi
Minister for Economy