

Dr Andrew Goodall
Ysgrifennydd Parhaol
Permanent Secretary



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Peter Fox MS
Peter.Fox@senedd.wales

30th November 2021

Dear Member of the Senedd,

The First Minister advised I would write to you in response to your Written Questions of 5th November 2021, referred to in the attached Annex, relating to 'How many officials' roles are focused on food matters?'

The food system is complex. There are obvious elements such as the manufacturing and processing industry, policy and delivery support to the industry, which is provided for by 52 Welsh Government posts organised as the Food Division.

The food system extends into agriculture and fisheries, with the majority of posts in these areas connected to the food system, although the same teams will also work on matters relating to environmental issues, business support and rural development. It would be artificial and misleading to offer specific numbers of posts solely focused on food matters, as roles can include several elements and are not necessarily clearly demarcated as food specific or not. Similarly there are officials working on food related matters in the foundational economy, trade, tourism, public health, education and skills teams. Again, these officials often have food and non-food elements in their roles.

Outside Welsh Government there are several bodies which are food focussed or where food is an important element of their work. The Food Standards Agency-Wales undertakes important food related functions, primarily about ensuring food is safe to consume. FSA Wales works closely with local authority enforcement officers to uphold standards. Public Health Wales works with Welsh Government and Health Trusts on a range of matters, including diet related health issues which are a major factor in chronic lifestyle related illness. Hybu Cig Cymru exists to develop and promote the red meat sector in Wales, which is an important part of the agriculture industry.

Yours sincerely



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Annex

1. **First Minister**

Peter Fox Monmouth **WQ83798** (e) Tabled on 05/11/2021

How many roles in the Minister's department are focused on the food system/sector in Wales?

Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution

2. **Peter Fox** Monmouth **WQ83797** (e) Tabled on 05/11/2021

How many roles in the Minister's department are focused on the food system/sector in Wales?

Minister for Finance & Local Government

3. **Peter Fox** Monmouth **WQ83802** (e) Tabled on 05/11/2021

How many roles in the Minister's department are focused on the food system/sector in Wales?

Minister for Economy

4. **Peter Fox** Monmouth **WQ83800** (e) Tabled on 05/11/2021

How many roles in the Minister's department are focused on the food system/sector in Wales?

Minister for Social Justice

5. **Peter Fox** Monmouth **WQ83804** (e) Tabled on 05/11/2021

How many roles in the Minister's department are focused on the food system/sector in Wales?

Minister for Climate Change

6. **Peter Fox** Monmouth **WQ83799** (e) Tabled on 05/11/2021

How many roles in the Minister's department are focused on the food system/sector in Wales?

Minister for Education and The Welsh Language

7. **Peter Fox** Monmouth **WQ83801** (e) Tabled on 05/11/2021

How many roles in the Minister's department are focused on the food system/sector in Wales?

Minister for Health and Social Services

8. **Peter Fox** Monmouth **WQ83803** (e) Tabled on 05/11/2021

How many roles in the Minister's department are focused on the food system/sector in Wales?



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