



Our ref: MD/PO/372/2024

Siân Gwenllïan AS  
Member of the Senedd for Arfon  
Senedd Cymru  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1SN

[Sian.Gwenllian@senedd.cymru](mailto:Sian.Gwenllian@senedd.cymru)

3 December 2024

Dear Siân Gwenllïan AS,

Thank you for your contribution to the debate on the Welsh Language Commissioner's Annual Report 2023-24 on 12 November. During that debate, I promised I would write to you outlining the work that is taking place in terms of Welsh language standards.

As I mentioned during the debate, we have recently consulted on adding more bodies to existing Welsh language standards regulations. That consultation has now closed, and responses received have been analysed. We are confident that we will be able to lay the statutory instruments before the Senedd in early 2025. Those statutory instruments will add six specific bodies, and the Special Health Authorities category, to existing standards regulations, and add some of those bodies to Schedule 6 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. As this was a commitment that was in the Co-operation Agreement, I have asked officials to hold a briefing with Plaid Cymru's spokesperson on the Welsh language in January, to provide a more detailed update on this work.

We continue to work through the standards programme agreed in the Co-operation Agreement. Regulations making standards for healthcare regulators, and water companies have already been approved by the Senedd earlier this Senedd term.

Policy work has already started to make standards for housing associations, and I'll be happy to update you when there are more details to share. Subsequently, we will move on with preparing regulations for public transport providers.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

[Correspondence.Mark.Drakeford@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Mark.Drakeford@gov.wales)  
[Gohebiaeth.Mark.Drakeford@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Mark.Drakeford@llyw.cymru)

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.

We have also initiated discussions with the Welsh Language Commissioner on the sectors which should be prioritised beyond this Senedd term. Those discussions are ongoing, but you will appreciate, I am sure, that it will be for the next Government to set priorities during the term of the next Senedd, and an implementation plan.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Mark Drakeford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

**Mark Drakeford AS/MS**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid a'r Gymraeg  
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language