Dear Nick

Thank you for your letter of 24 September, regarding support for Food Festivals.

For over 15 years food festivals in Wales have benefitted from Welsh Government funding. In 2015-16 Welsh Government Food Division commissioned a comprehensive review and evaluation of Welsh Food Festivals supported by the Welsh Government. The published document is available on [https://businesswales.gov.wales/foodanddrink/food-tourism](https://businesswales.gov.wales/foodanddrink/food-tourism)

Following the development of this research Welsh Government support was targeted at food festivals encouraging and supporting fledgling business to use festivals as a starting platform to test new products, interact with customers and grow in confidence. The support also encourages Festivals to develop content which delivers food education and healthy eating messages.

36 food festivals and events in Wales have been supported in 2019 – 20, these collectively will reach an estimated 500,000 visitors across the programme. We continue to work with festivals and events in order to support new food and drink businesses. Full details of all events supported are available on: [https://businesswales.gov.wales/foodanddrink/growing-your-business/food-tourism-and-culture](https://businesswales.gov.wales/foodanddrink/growing-your-business/food-tourism-and-culture)

Regards

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Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs