

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Economi
Minister for Economy



WQ90894
Janet Finch-Saunders
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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

12 February 2024

Dear Janet,

I'm writing in response to WQ90894: Will the Minister explain how the Welsh Government is adapting its economic strategy to capitalise on emerging industries and technologies and ensure Wales remains competitive on an international scale?

We recognise that Wales must keep up with emerging technologies and are investing in a number of areas to ensure this happens. As part of our Economic Mission: Priorities for a Stronger Economy and International Strategy, the Welsh Government continues to proactively promote those sectors of the economy where Wales has international class capabilities (including cyber, compound semiconductors, fintech, life sciences and renewable energy) across all parts of Wales.

Our Economic Mission sets out four national priority areas, with a focus upon economic growth. One of the aims is to drive support for R&D designed to draw more UK funding into Wales, supporting a thriving higher education sector and jobs of the future. This will support data-driven innovation and the adoption of new technologies such as artificial intelligence, advancing our ambitious digital strategy for Wales.

We have also supported the UK's strongest cyber cluster, investing £3 million in the Cyber Innovation Hub, bringing industry, government, defence and academia together to grow Welsh cyber.

This is further supported by our refreshed Manufacturing Plan for Wales, which is designed to ensure the sector is well placed to embrace and benefit from the technological change brought about by the fourth industrial revolution. The plan will help ensure Wales remains a leading manufacturing nation with a more prosperous, equal and greener economy.

It includes plans to identify and develop the necessary leadership and workforce skills required to achieve 'Wales 4.0'. It also aims to strengthen collaboration between stakeholders to embrace technological change and deliver more commercial innovation at pace.

Yours sincerely,

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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.

Vaughan Gething

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