

Dawn Bowden AS/MS
Dirprwy Weinidog y Celfyddydau a Chwaraeon, a'r Prif Chwip
Deputy Minister for Arts and Sport, and Chief Whip



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref DB/00242/22
Ashok Ahir
President
National Library of Wales
carol.edwards@llyfrgell.cymru

26 May 2022

Dear Ashok Ahir

Thank you for your correspondence dated 19 April regarding the National Library's financial position and possible changes to the Library's pension scheme.

I understand that you have already held initial discussions with my officials in relation to the possibility of putting different pension arrangements in place. I suggest that those discussions should continue and also involve officials in the Welsh Government's Public Bodies Unit.

As you note in your letter, access to the PCSPS is not within the Welsh Government's gift. The Cabinet Office has to agree to give the Library access to the scheme and it will then require either primary or secondary legislation to add bodies to Schedule 1 of the Superannuation Act 1972. There is no guarantee that the Cabinet Office will agree to give the Library access to the scheme even if the Welsh Government supported the Library's application.

It is important that the Library consider the cost implications of making changes to your pension scheme and that they are affordable within current settlements. It is also important that you take into account the possible impact on staff morale, relationship with the unions, ability to recruit and any negative publicity arising from the proposed changes.

Yours sincerely

Dawn Bowden AS/MS
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Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Gohebiaeth.Dawn.Bowden@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Dawn.Bowden@gov.wales

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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.