



Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ90844

Andrew RT Davies
Welsh Parliament
Andrewrt.davies@senedd.wales

8 March 2024

Dear Andrew,

I write in response to WQ90844: What actions has the Minister taken to help freelancers to financially recover from the pandemic and cost-of-living crisis?

The Welsh Government made unprecedented levels of funding available to support Welsh businesses through the pandemic and beyond. This included a Cultural Recovery Freelancer Grant for freelancers working in the cultural and creative sectors in Wales and was targeted specifically at those in the freelance sector hit hardest by the pandemic.

Creative Wales and the Arts Council of Wales have recently published a Memorandum of Understanding which sets out how both bodies intend to work in partnership to support and sustain creative sectors and inclusive arts. The Memorandum of Understanding details the agreed shared priority to support the freelancer community, to work together alongside the creative unions to support freelancers and to ensure opportunities are strategically linked. This includes supporting the ambitions of the Freelancer Pledge first developed as part of the Cultural Recovery Fund.

Business support is available for those facing uncertainties due to the cost-of-living crisis. Business Wales provides a range of general business advice, information and signposting as well as specialist strands of advice such as contingency planning and resource efficiency to support businesses, including freelancers. Support is delivered through a combination of online, telephone, 1-2-many and 1-2-1 business support which is tailored according to client need and the different regions of Wales, dependant on local requirements.

A [cost of doing business zone](#) on the Business Wales website brings together existing content and tools available to support businesses to reduce their use of resources and costs. This zone acts as the focal point for any future advice and support for businesses.

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Gohebiaeth.Vaughan.Gething@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales

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.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Economi
Minister for Economy