

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

PET(3) 12-08 Papur 2 : 23 Gorffennaf 2008

P-03-139 Canolfan Gelfyddydau Glannau Gwy

Geiriad y ddeiseb

'Yr ydym ni sy'n llofnodi isod yn gofyn i chi achub Canolfan Gelfyddydau Glannau Gwy.

Mae Canolfan Gelfyddydau Glannau Gwy sydd wedi ennill gwobrau ac sy'n gartref i'r sinema sydd wedi bod ar waith hwyaf yng Nghymru, yn wynebu gorfodi cael ei chau. Mae apeliadau i Gyngor Sir Powys a Chyngor Celfyddydau Cymru wedi cael eu gwrthod. Yr ydym ni sy'n llofnodi ein henwau isod i gefnogi'r ddeiseb hon drwy hyn yn gofyn i Weinidog Cymru dros Dreftadaeth, Rhodri Glyn Thomas, wneud popeth o fewn ei allu i sicrhau goroesiad y ganolfan gelfyddydau wledig uchel ei chanmoliaeth a gwerthfawr tu hwnt hon.'

Cefndir

Cafodd y ddeiseb yma ei gyflwyni gan Jane Oberman o Lanfair ym Muallt.

Casglodd y ddeiseb 8,199 llofnodion.

Darparodd y deisebwr datganiad ategol, mewn Saesneg yn unig:

1. Wyeside is a small community arts centre in Buith Wells. It is widely accepted as consistently producing high-quality programmes and giving good value for public money. This very substantial petition was the public's response to the perceived threat that the Arts Council of Wales was about to withdraw its annual revenue funding of £67,000 p.a.. In response to prior correspondence, the Minister declined to intervene, relying on the "arm's length" principle. In view of the public outcry (of which the 8,000 signatures on this petition forms part), ACW are currently considering whether to continue funding for 2008/9 on the basis of a revised Wyeside business plan.
2. Wyeside serves a scattered population through mid- Powys and beyond with limited access to arts and culture. Public transport to other centres is very limited. In some respects the area suffers from significant deprivation.. We have recently received numerous descriptions, often in moving terms, of what Wyeside means to users for access, for their careers, for young people, from Arts professionals, for local tourism and business, and in other ways. Summaries of these have been provided to ACW and can be made available to the Committee.
3. We respectfully suggest that Wyeside's crisis (irrespective of ACW's decision on this year's funding) raises general issues about appropriate criteria for the Minister's remit letter to ACW against the general policy of NAW to integrate arts and culture into life throughout Wales. Access assumes increasing importance as a criterion in view of the carbon footprint of audiences travelling distances in rural areas. The deprivation criterion needs to be interpreted broadly and not regarded (for example) in terms of Objective 1 and 2 area definitions. Community arts should be given appropriate significance.
4. Wyeside is not asking for preferential treatment, but to be judged on the quality of its work against criteria recognising the cultural needs of the community of mid-Wales which it serves.
5. We would welcome the opportunity to give evidence before the Committee. Should such a session be held during the Royal Welsh Show in Buith Wells, we would like to extend to the Committee's members and officers a warm welcome to visit Wyeside, which is less than 400 yards from the showground.

Rhoddodd y Pwyllgor ystyriaeth i'r deiseb ar 26 Mehefin 2008.

Gwasanaeth Pwyllgorau Gorffennaf 2008