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Dawn Bowden Deputy Minister for Arts and Sport Welsh Government 5th Floor Tŷ Hywel Cardiff Bay CF99 1NA

Via email: correspondence.dawn.bowden@gov.wales

Dear Minister,

The NUJ has written to you twice with questions about the process by which Newsquest was granted public money for the Welsh-language news service Corgi Cymru from the Books Council of Wales. Our disquiet grew following Newsquest's decision to end *The National*, especially given the decision to entrust money to them again despite its earlier failure with the subbing hub at Newport.

Since the news that Newsquest have now decided to cease Corgi Cymru the NUJ calls on the Welsh Government as a matter of urgency to ensure that a review takes place on how Newsquest were allowed access to public money. This review should also look at why the Books Council of Wales got itself into the position of splitting its previous budget for Golwg 360 between Golwg and Newsquest.

The NUJ believes that in future any request by Newsquest for public funding in Wales should be subject to scrutiny by yourself as Minister and by the relevant Senedd committee.

We also urge you to instruct the Books Council of Wales to take urgent action to ensure that monies are repaid and that Golwg is adequately funded to provide a full Welsh language news service. It should be a matter of priority that the Golwg 360 website is not threatened and indeed is restored to the position it was in before its funding was halved.

We have also copied this letter to Delyth Jewell, MS, as Chair of the Senedd's Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport and International Relations Committee.

Yours sincerely,

MA Anu

Nick Powell Chair, Welsh Executive Council National Union of Journalists