



Delyth Jewell MS
Chair, Culture, Communications, Welsh Language,
Sport, and International Relations Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

17 June 2025

Dear Delyth,

Thank you for your correspondence of 23 May to the Prime Minister sharing the committee's concerns about the impact the Immigration White Paper will have on Wales. I am replying as the Minister for Migration & Citizenship. Please see below responses to each of your questions.

What assessment has been undertaken of the likely effects of these proposals on arts and culture?

The UK's immigration offer enables the most talented individuals within arts and culture to come to the UK through a variety of different routes, including through the Global Talent route. As part of our mission to promote growth, and building on the current system, the proposals in the White Paper will continue to ensure highly skilled creatives have opportunities to come to the UK to contribute to our economy and cultural heritage.

The UK Government, and our endorsing body partners, always consider the needs of the devolved nations when amendments to the Global Talent route are made. Arts Council England act as the arts and culture endorsing body for practitioners throughout the whole of the UK, and work closely with a number of other bodies covering a wide array of cultural occupations including fashion design and architecture to set criteria which identifies top talent who can base themselves within Wales and the rest of the UK.

For those academics focusing on arts and cultural fields, a number of pathways specifically cover individuals coming to work in and with Welsh institutions. For example, UK Research and Innovation, one of the Global Talent endorsing bodies, already accept receipt of funding from bodies such as Ser Cymru, the Arts Council of Wales and the Senedd as demonstrating an individual has exceptional talent. Individuals who will be taking up research roles at Welsh organisations such as the National Library of Wales also qualify under a fast-track Global Talent pathway managed by the Royal Society, British Academy and Royal Academy of Engineering.

As part of the White Paper the Government are looking to make it simpler and easier for top design talent to use our Global Talent visa. Further details of this proposal will be published in due course.

What consideration has been given to the Welsh language as a qualifying language in policy development?

We are committed to exploring this issue and we will discuss the matter with the Welsh Government in due course.

Whether the Welsh Government has had any involvement in the development of the proposals in the white paper?

The Welsh Government were invited to provide proposals for inclusion in the White Paper and I met with Jane Hutt before publication to discuss the proposed reforms.

What involvement the Welsh Government will have in the future?

This Government values the input of the Welsh Government and continues to work closely on important issues. The Welsh Government provided suggestions for inclusion in the Immigration White Paper, and the White Paper and new Labour Market Evidence Group were discussed at the Home Office Interministerial Group (IMG) for Safety, Security and Migration on Wednesday 21 May 2025, attended by Jane Hutt CBE, MS.

The Home Office will continue to engage with the Welsh Government on the implications of the White Paper for Wales, at both official level and Ministerial level.

With best wishes,



**Seema Malhotra MP
Minister for Migration & Citizenship**