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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Jeremy Miles MS
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

2 April 2026

Dear Minister Miles

Thank you for seeking my advice under the Welsh Government's Business Appointment Rules for Former Ministers (the "Rules") in relation to your proposed role with the Youth Endowment Fund.

The Rules exist to protect the integrity of government and to safeguard public confidence in government by ensuring that former Ministers do not, and are not perceived to, derive improper advantage or profit from their time in office, or confer such advantage on others. In considering your application, my focus is therefore on whether any risks arise from your previous role and, if so, how these can be appropriately managed.

The material information and my consideration are set out in the Annex. I am content that the appointment may proceed subject to the appropriate conditions set out below, recognising that it is your responsibility to ensure that these are demonstrably applied in practice:

Privileged information condition: You should not draw on (disclose or use for the benefit of the Youth Endowment Fund, including its related parties) any privileged information available to you from your time in ministerial office. This is an ongoing duty irrespective of the time elapsed since you left office.

Lobbying condition: For two years from your last day in office, you should not engage in any form of lobbying of the Welsh Government or its arm's length bodies on behalf of the Youth Endowment Fund or related entities. You should not make use, directly or indirectly, of your contacts in the government and/or ministerial office to influence policy, secure business or funding, or otherwise unfairly advantage Youth Endowment Fund, including related parties. (Please also note point 5 below)

Contracts and bids condition: For two years from your last day in office, you should not undertake any work with Youth Endowment Fund (including related parties) that involves providing advice on

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.

the terms of, or with regard to the subject matter of, a bid with, or contract relating directly to the work of, the Welsh Government or its arm's length bodies.

I would also ask you to note the following:

1. My advice does not constitute an endorsement of the appointment itself. It is confined to the application of the Rules and the management of any risks arising from your former ministerial role.
2. This advice relates solely to your previous role in government. It does not extend to, or replace, any rules administered by other bodies, including Senedd Cymru / Welsh Parliament in respect of your role as a Member. It is your personal responsibility to ensure that you understand and comply with any other applicable rules and regulatory requirements alongside this advice.
3. In this context, "privileged information" means information to which you had access by virtue of your ministerial role and which is not publicly available. You may also continue to be bound by other confidentiality obligations, including those under the Official Secrets Act, the Ministerial Code, or similar requirements.
4. For the purposes of this advice, "related entities" should be interpreted broadly to include any organisations connected to the Youth Endowment Fund, including parent companies, subsidiaries, clients, or other partners, where a benefit might reasonably arise.
5. As set out in the Rules, the lobbying restriction prevents former Ministers from engaging in communication with government (including Ministers, civil servants, special advisers, and other public office holders), wherever that communication takes place, with a view to influencing a government decision, policy, or the award of a contract or grant in relation to their own interests or those of the organisation with which they are associated. However, in the context of your application this restriction should be read with the clarification that it does not prevent routine engagement with government where this forms part of the organisation's normal activities. In this context, your role may appropriately involve sharing and discussing research and evidence with Welsh Ministers in support of evidence-based policy. Preventing such engagement would be disproportionate and inconsistent with the purpose of the role. Any such contact should be arranged through the appropriate Ministerial Private Office in the usual way.

In line with the Rules, I would ask that you notify my secretariat when the appointment is taken up or publicly announced, at which stage this advice will be published. You should also let us know if there are any plans to extend or materially change the nature of the role, as this may require further advice or a new application.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Melissa McCullough

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Annex – Material information and consideration of the risks

The role

Following a publicly advertised recruitment process, you propose to take up the role of Chief Executive Officer of the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF), a UK charity focused on research and evidence-led approaches to preventing violence affecting children and young people. This is a remunerated position involving strategic leadership of the organisation, responsibility for governance and financial oversight, and acting as a public advocate for its work, including promoting evidence-based approaches to social justice and violence prevention. The role also involves building relationships with a range of stakeholders, including Ministers and officials, and working closely with all governments in the UK to support informed decision-making. The appointment is expected to commence in July this year.

Assessment

The following points are relevant to my consideration. There is no evidence of any financial or contractual relationship between the Welsh Government and the Youth Endowment Fund. The appointment of Impetus as the charitable trustee responsible for administering the endowment was made by the UK Government in 2019, with no involvement by you or any Welsh Ministers. The organisation's work does not fall within your current or previous ministerial portfolio, and, as you stated in your application, you have had no direct engagement with it in the past two years. More broadly, the policy areas in which the organisation operates sit outside your ministerial responsibilities, falling instead within the remit of other Cabinet members.

My consideration of the risks

In light of the factors set out above, including that the work of the Youth Endowment Fund sits outside your current and previous ministerial portfolios, that you have had no direct engagement with the organisation in those roles, and that your appointment followed an open and competitive process, I have identified no reasonable basis for public concern arising from your taking up this position. It is also relevant that the role will commence after your term of office has concluded, approximately two months following the election in May. Given there is already a two-month period between your ministerial role and the proposed appointment, and that there is no formal requirement for a waiting period within the Welsh Government framework, I am content there is no need to require any further waiting period.

Taking all of these factors into account and based on the information you have provided and the due diligence undertaken, I do not consider that there are any grounds which would lead me to advise against your acceptance of this role.