Annex 1

1. **Correspondence between the Welsh Government and Jesus College Oxford, Bodleian Libraries or the University of Oxford regarding the Red Book of Hergest.**

From: [Redacted – Personal Information] [Redacted – Personal Information]@jesus.ox.ac.uk>
Sent: 04 July 2017 09:38
To: [Redacted – Personal Information] (LCC - Cadw) <[Redacted – Personal Information]@gov.wales>
Subject: Re: Image request

Dear [Redacted – Personal Information] (if I may),

Thank you for your enquiry. Yes, that is the start of the story of Branwen, at the foot of column 726, the verso of page 179, of the Red Book. You can download a (very!) high-resolution JPEG directly at http://image.ox.ac.uk/images/jesus/ms111/179v.jpg

I'm happy to grant permission for Cadw to reproduce this image in the new guidebooks to Harlech Castle. We ask for an acknowledgment in the text of the form 'By kind permission of Jesus College, Oxford'.

Further, I can waive any charges in return for complimentary copies of the Welsh and English guidebooks to add to our Celtic Library. Please let me know if this will be acceptable.

Best wishes,
[Redacted – Personal Information]

[Redacted – Personal Information]
College Librarian
Jesus College
Turl Street, Oxford OX1 3DW
[Redacted – Personal Information]
librarian@jesus.ox.ac.uk
libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/jesus

From: [Redacted – Personal Information]@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Sent: 03 July 2017 16:10
To: Jesus College Libraries
Subject: Image request
Importance: High

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing from Cadw, the historic environment service of the Welsh Government. We are currently producing a new guidebook for Harlech Castle and would very

much like to reproduce one of your images within it – an extract from The Red Book of Hergest – see below. We are hoping that this extract includes the opening of the second branch of The Mabinogion, the story of Branwen, in the bottom left-hand column. Perhaps you would be able to confirm this – if you are able to identify it from my low-res image?



We'd like to obtain a high-resolution copy of this image and also permission to reproduce it in our guidebook. To note, we are producing the guidebook in both English and Welsh (separate editions), although the print runs do vary quite considerably – we plan to print 7k English and only 500 Welsh. Perhaps you would consider combining the print runs when looking at costs. The details are as follows:

Item 1-Harlech Castle Guidebook
Specification: 44pp text + 8pp cover with throw outs to front and back
Finished Size: N/S Portrait 255 by 210
Quantity: 7,000
No of Text Pages: 44

Item2-Castell Harlech
Specification: 44pp text + 8pp cover with throw outs to front and back
Finished Size: N/S Portrait 255 by 210
Quantity: 500
No of Text Pages: 44

We plan to use the image inside, at a marginal size – taking up less than 1/8 of the page. Our planned publication date is July 2017.

Please do let me know if you require further details.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes

[Redacted – Personal Information]

[Redacted – Personal Information]
Rheolwr Cyhoeddiadau/Publications Manager
Gwasanaeth Amgylchedd Hanesyddol (Cadw)/Historic Environment Service (Cadw)
Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth/Economy, Science and Transport
Llywodraeth Cymru/Welsh Government
Ffôn/Tel: [Redacted – Personal Information]

2. **Correspondence between the Welsh Government and the National Library of Wales regarding the Red Book of Hergest.**

-----Original Message-----
From: [Redacted – Personal Information] (CyMAL)
Sent: 27 June 2013 10:30
To: [Redacted – Personal Information] (CyMAL) [Redacted – Personal Information] Wales.GSI.Gov.UK>
Cc: [Redacted – Personal Information] (CyMAL)< [Redacted – Personal Information] Wales.GSI.Gov.UK>; [Redacted – Personal Information] (CyMAL) <[Redacted – Personal Information] Wales.GSI.Gov.UK>; [Redacted – Personal Information] (CyMAL) <[Redacted – Personal Information] Wales.GSI.Gov.UK>
Subject: FW: statement loan of red book

Er gwybodaeth / For information.

The lenders of the Llyfr Coch Hergest / the Red Book of Hergest have asked for a statement of reassurance from the Library following the fire that the work will be properly cared for when it is lent for exhibition over the autumn and winter.. As part of that, the Library have asked for a short factual statement from WG about our offer to indemnify the work. This is below.

Cofion
[Redacted – Personal Information]

-----Original Message-----
From: [Redacted – Personal Information] (CyMAL)
Sent: 27 June 2013 10:17
To: [Redacted – Personal Information]
Subject: FW: statement loan of red book

[Redacted – Personal Information]

I haven't inserted this into the document, but would propose the following wording:

The Welsh Ministers have made an offer to indemnify Llyfr Coch Hergest / the Red Book of Hergest while it is on loan to the National Library of Wales from 1 October 2013 to 31 March 2014. This was agreed prior to the recent fire at the Library. The Welsh Government fully intends to retain this offer of indemnity.

Happy to discuss

[Redacted – Personal Information]

-----Original Message-----
From: [Redacted – Personal Information] [mailto: [Redacted – Personal Information]@llgc.org.uk]
Sent: 26 June 2013 11:57
To: [Redacted – Personal Information] (CyMAL)
Subject: Re: statement loan of red book

Hi [Redacted – Personal Information],

This is the draft statement - basically an amalgamation of information from press releases with a little extra information about the exhibition space (although they have a UKRG report which they can also refer to).
I've yet to send it to [Redacted – Personal Information], but if you could insert something beforehand I would be extremely grateful.

Diolch,
[Redacted – Personal Information]

On 25/06/2013 08:56, [Redacted – Personal Information] (CyMAL) wrote:
Hi [Redacted – Personal Information]
Perhaps if you could send me the Library's draft statement to set it in context for me a bit better, and I can insert something?
[Redacted – Personal Information]

-----Original Message-----
From: [Redacted – Personal Information] [mailto: [Redacted – Personal Information] @llgc.org.uk]
Sent: 24 June 2013 16:30
To: [Redacted – Personal Information] (CyMAL)
Subject: statement loan of red book

Hi [Redacted – Personal Information],

Hope all is well. The Bodleian (on behalf of Jesus College) have asked for a sort of statement of reassurance from the Library following the fire regarding the loan of the Red Book of Hergest this Autumn. We are preparing a statement, but I just wanted to include something from CyMAL to state that the Indemnity of the item will not be affected. Is this something you could provide please?

Hope you can help - with thanks,

[Redacted – Personal Information]
Swyddog Arddangosfeydd / Exhibitions Officer

Context – Culture Division comments on The National Library of Wales' draft operational plan for 2017-2021

Have discussions with the Bodleian Library reached a sufficient stage that it is appropriate for the Library to include the two actions relating to the Red Book of Hergest? Currently the actions are to "seek agreement" which suggests that discussions are at an early stage (it is not clear whether discussions have already commenced or if the Library is just expressing its intention to start this process) and this partnership has not yet been confirmed, therefore the activities mentioned are not guaranteed to progress.

3. **Any ministerial briefings, submission or policy prepared for a Minister regarding the Red Book of Hergest.**

Context – Briefing - Minister for Culture and Sport Ministerial Visit to Radnorshire Museum and Art Gallery 17/10/2013

Purpose of Event:
You have been invited to officially open an exhibition of four iconic Welsh medieval manuscripts which are displayed together for the first time:
Black Book of Carmarthen (13th Century)
The Book of Taliesin (14th Century)
The Book of Aneirin (13th Century)
The Red Book of Hergest (c. 1400)

Background Briefing:
The '4 Books: Welsh Icons United' exhibition celebrates the earliest literature in Welsh. This exhibition brings together 4 iconic medieval manuscripts celebrating the earliest literature in Welsh for the first time: the Black Book of Carmarthen and Book of Taliesin; the Book of Aneirin; and the Red Book of Hergest. The manuscripts contain early versions of Wales' most famous myths and legends such as stories of Merlin and King Arthur, tales from the Mabinogion, and the drowning of Cantre'r Gwaelod. Loan of the Red Book of Hergest from Jesus College, Oxford has been made possible by the Government Indemnity Scheme, which is administered by CyMAL on behalf of the Welsh Government.

Between October and January the Library will host a series of lectures on the manuscripts. Professor [Redacted – Personal Information] will explore the contents and significance of The Red Book of Hergest

The Red Book of Hergest (c. 1400)
The Red Book of Hergest is a large vellum manuscript written shortly after 1382, which ranks as one of the most important medieval manuscripts written in the Welsh language. It preserves a collection of Welsh prose and poetry, notably the tales of the Mabinogion and Gogynfeirdd poetry. The manuscript derives its name from the colour of its leather binding and from its association with Hergest Court between the late 15th and early 17th century. According to scholar [Redacted – Personal Information], it is "by far the heaviest of the medieval books in Welsh, the largest in its dimensions [...] and the thickest". J.R.R. Tolkien borrowed the title for the Red Book of Westmarch, the imagined legendary source of Tolkien's tales.

The manuscript is on loan to the National Library from Oxford University.

Lines to Take:

- The Red Book of Hergest was given to Jesus College, Oxford in 1701 by its then owner, the Reverend Thomas Wilkins of Llanbleddian. The manuscript is owned by the college, and has been part of its collection for over 300 years. The Red Book is cared for by the Bodleian Library, which provides a very high standard of care for objects in its charge.

- I am very grateful that Oxford University has been willing to develop this partnership with the National Library of Wales, and their generosity which has given people in Wales a wonderful opportunity to see this important manuscript.

- A transcript of the prose from the Red Book, completed in 2007, is freely accessible to the public online.

Repatriation:
From time to time, calls are made for the 'repatriation' of various cultural objects to Wales (recent examples have included the Mold Cape, the Bardsey Crown, the Llandeilo Gospels and the Pennal Letter). In the case of the Red Book, the provenance of the item as a gift from its private owner to the college is clear, and there are little grounds for a repatriation request. It should also be noted that there are many items/treasures which form part of the collections of museums, archives and libraries in Wales that could equally be the subject of repatriation to other countries.

To date neither Wales' national institutions nor the Welsh Government have made calls for repatriation of artefacts to Wales, preferring to work with owners on tours and loans, and also recognising the significant amount of non-Welsh material in our national collections.

4. **A copy of a policy, position statement or strategy held by the Welsh Government regarding the repatriation of Welsh cultural or heritage items.**

   We do not hold the requested information.

5. **Any record of support from the Welsh Government to the National Library of Wales or other institution in connection with the Red Book of Hergest.**

   We do not hold the requested information.