Sir Derek Jones KCB Ysgrifennydd Parhaol Permanent Secretary



Andrew RT Davies AM National Assembly for Wales Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1NA

Dear Andrew,

(21t May 2014

Welsh Assembly Question 66750

You recently submitted a Written Assembly Question to the First Minister asking:

With reference to WAQ66505, will the First Minister disclose the total estimated staffing costs (e.g. salary, national insurance and pension contributions) for the 97.2 FTE staff members? (WAQ66750)

The total annual cost, including national insurance and pension contributions, of the 97.2 FTE staff working in our Strategic Communications Division at the end of February 2014 was £4,022,574.73. As I explained in my response to WAQ66505, these staff undertake a wide range of functions on behalf of all Departments within the Welsh Government, a number of which provide demonstrable savings against the costs of externally provided services. The staff cost should, therefore, be considered in this context.