



Dear Colleague,

To assist the Welsh Government's Review of Digital Innovation for the Economy and the Future of Work in Wales, I invite you to take part in how Public Bodies are doing in Wales to face digital challenges and explore opportunities.

There are a few ways that you can get involved. There is no expectation on you to complete all the questions.

1 - [Survey on Public Bodies' preparedness](#)

2 - [Welsh Government's Call for Evidence](#)

3 - Or simply send us an email with your thoughts

As you know, it is predicted that the next technological revolution will fundamentally alter the way we live, work, and relate to one another. A number of research studies have attempted to understand the likely scale and scope of this change and in doing so have identified emerging risk areas for Wales for certain regions, industries and job roles. It is essential that Wales is able to fully understand its ability to respond to the next phase of technological advancement, that our response is integrated and comprehensive, builds on international best practice and involves public sector as a major employer and service provider within Wales.

Artificial intelligence and automation is a broad and growing field that is still mysterious to many, with automation being defined as 'the technology by which a process or procedure is performed without human assistance', and artificial intelligence as 'intelligence demonstrated by machines, in contrast to the natural intelligence displayed by humans and other animals'. The uses and implications are vast and can be technically complicated, leading to many debates around the use of data and how that in turn can influence the development and use of artificial intelligence and automation.

The Welsh Government Review of Digital Innovation will assess exploiting these technological advances in the economy. As a member of the Review Expert Panel, I am keen to ensure that Public Bodies' voices are heard and considered. By 31st March 2019 a published report and executive summary will be available detailing the evidence, analysis and recommendations for Welsh Government as a result of the Review.

You can find a full list of the [Review Objectives here](#).

I have been pleased to see that many public bodies have set objectives relating to jobs, skills and the economy to meet their statutory duty of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, and we will be looking at the progress made and to support them to identify what needs to be done. I anticipate the Review's recommendations will play a key part, supporting public bodies to meet their objectives by identifying needs, maximising opportunities and mitigating risks.

To do this we need an open and honest assessment of where we currently are. In that spirit, we'd like to hear from you directly, as to how you feel strategically about this challenging agenda.

I'd be very grateful if you could submit your answers by 6 November. If you prefer to answer your questions over the phone, please arrange a convenient time with my office through emailing contactus@futuregenerations.wales or via 02921 677 400.

There will be other opportunities during the Review for you to share your thoughts and insights and I'm very grateful, in advance, for your willingness to contribute to the work.

Many thanks in advance for assisting us with this Review and for taking the time to answering my questions.