

Kirsty Williams has been the Assembly Member for Brecon and Radnorshire since 1999 and is currently the Cabinet Secretary for Education in the Welsh Government. Kirsty was leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats from 2008 until 2016.

Kirsty was born in March 1971 to Welsh parents, her father a librarian from Llanelli and her mother a housewife from Swansea. She was educated at the village primary school and St. Michaels School Llanelli. She studied for her degree, a B.A. Hons in American Studies at Manchester University and The University of Missouri.

Prior to being elected to represent the people of Brecon and Radnorshire, Kirsty worked at Carmarthenshire College and for a small business in Cardiff as a Marketing Executive.

Kirsty married her husband Richard in 2000 and they have three daughters. They live on the family farm just outside Brecon.

Political career

As a strong believer in social justice from a young age, Kirsty joined the Liberal Party at the age of 15.

Alongside promoting a strong brand of liberalism, Kirsty has widely been seen a strong advocate of devolution for Wales. Kirsty was an enthusiastic ‘Yes’ campaigner in the 1997 Assembly Referendum and made her television debut as a political pundit, representing the Welsh Liberal Democrats, on election night. Following the referendum, she was appointed to the National Assembly Advisory Group by the then Secretary of State for Wales, Ron Davies.

Since the beginning of the National Assembly in 1999, Kirsty has proudly represented the people of Brecon and Radnorshire in the Assembly. Following this, Kirsty would later go on to make history by becoming, in 2008, the first female party leader in the National Assembly.

During her time as leader, Kirsty cites her proudest achievement as being the establishment of the ‘**Welsh Pupil Premium**’ – which has led to **£282million extra money to support Wales’ most disadvantaged pupils**. This was established in exchange for the party’s support for the Welsh Government’s Annual budget.

Alongside being widely considered the best leader in the Assembly at holding the Welsh Government to account, Kirsty has also gained a strong reputation for campaigner on health issues. Kirsty’s long-running ‘**More Nurses**’ campaign has seen much success with her bill currently making progress through the National Assembly.

 **Tel / Ffôn:**

 **E-mail / Epost:** PS.CabSecEducation@gov.wales



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From:

Sent: 06 November 2017 15:05

To: PS Cabinet Secretary for Education

Cc:

Subject: RE: Vietnam - Trade/Ed. Mission

The programme is still being formalised so I wouldn't see a problem if the Minister's party needs to leave around 8.30 on the Thursday, or earlier if necessary.

I know you have provided before, but could you send me a short bio and picture of the Minister and xxxx please?

Busnes y Llywodraeth/Government Business
Y Grwp Addysg a Gwasnaethau Cyhoeddus / Education & Public Services Group
Llywodraeth Cymru/Welsh Government
Ffôn/Tel:

From: PS Cabinet Secretary for Education

Sent: 06 November 2017 13:42

To:

Cc: PS Cabinet Secretary for Education;

DS Cabinet Secretary for Education;

Subject: RE: Vietnam - Trade/Ed. Mission

To see please in xxxxx absence. The flight below will allow us to stay on budget – otherwise costs are considerably more or flights even more inconvenient.

thanks

Senior Private Secretary to Kirsty Williams AM
Prif Ysgrifennydd Preifat I Kirsty Williams AC
Cabinet Secretary for Education / Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg
Cabinet Division/ Is-adran y Cabinet Welsh Government / Llywodraeth Cymru

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From: PS Cabinet Secretary for Education

Sent: 06 November 2017 13:32

To:

DS Cabinet Secretary for Education;

Cc: PS Cabinet Secretary for Education;

Subject: RE: Vietnam - Trade/Ed. Mission

We are looking to book flights to leave at 00:40 on Friday 1 December – I presume that there shouldn't be a problem getting to the airport (Hanoi) as the draft itinerary indicates reception which I'm hoping we could make early evening?

If we don't get this flight it means hanging around for quite some time with additional costs.

thanks

Senior Private Secretary to Kirsty Williams AM
Prif Ysgrifennydd Preifat I Kirsty Williams AC
Cabinet Secretary for Education / Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg
Cabinet Division / Is-adran y Cabinet Welsh Government / Llywodraeth Cymru

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<< OLE Object: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) >>

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From:

Sent: 03 November 2017 17:25

To: DS Cabinet Secretary for Education;

Cc: PS Cabinet Secretary for Education;

Subject: Vietnam - Trade/Ed. Mission

Dear

I met with the Working Group earlier today to discuss the Cabinet Secretary's programmes. Unfortunately nothing in the British Council's programme has been worked up to the stage where any of the engagements are fixed points. Enclosed is the slightly revised programme. British Council Wales has a call in with BC in VN on Monday to start firming things up, so hopefully by this time next week we will have something more concrete.



Cab Sec Vietnam
Mission Progra...

Global Wales want to develop a holistic system to system approach to include FE as part of the Welsh offer. There is an opportunity to promote a skilled Welsh workforce, summer and winter schools for the Vietnamese, the international relationships already developed and the capacity to deliver in-country skills based programmes. **Therefore officials advise that the Cabinet Secretary adds into the programme the meeting with the *Directorate of Vocational Education and Training (DVET)/ Ministry of Labour Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA).***

Cabinet Secretary will be expected to lead on the visit to the HCMC People's Committee. We will arrange a pre-meeting/briefing session with Global Wales and BC before this meeting. Dewi mentioned about looking to get something signed at these meetings but the feeling around the table is that the relationship is not there yet and part of this meeting will be to explore/scope out a potential agreement.

– once the programme starts to firm up, we will need to think about gifts.

Business cards for Cab Sec, and are being prepared.

Thanks

Swyddog Polisi Ymgysylltu Rhyngwladol | International Engagement Policy Officer
Cysylltiadau Rhyngwladol | International Relations
Swyddfa'r Prif Weinidog a Swyddfa'r Cabinet | Office of the First Minister and Cabinet Office
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